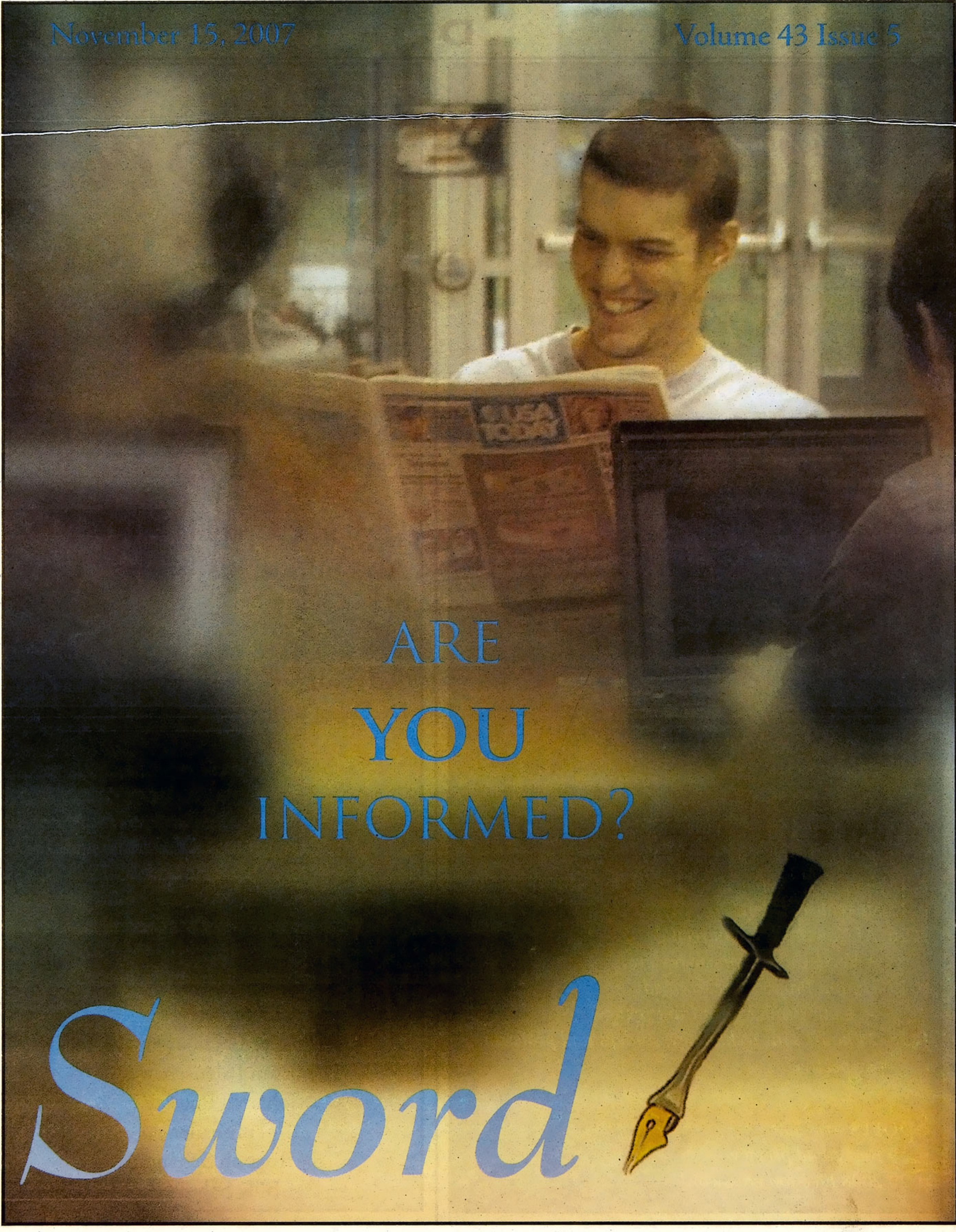


November 15, 2007

Volume 43 Issue 5



ARE  
YOU  
INFORMED?

*Sword*





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# Election Update

By Lance Meyer

Last Tuesday marked the beginning of the one-year countdown to

the 2008 Presidential Election, an election that has been the cause of far more questions than answers. A year before the polls even open, questions about the quality of the candidates or lack thereof have already squeezed their way into the minds of Americans.

Will America have its first female president in 2008? What about an African-American president? Will Stephen Colbert really mount a serious campaign, and if so will it accomplish anything? What will be the major issues of the upcoming election? The Iraq War? Health Care? Social Security? Will America elect a democrat or republican?

Being that no incumbent is able or vice president willing to run next year, there are no clear-cut answers to these questions or a favorite that stands out in the race. Rather, candidates from both major parties continue to battle over the major issues of the day and try to gain some sort of advantage in people's minds.

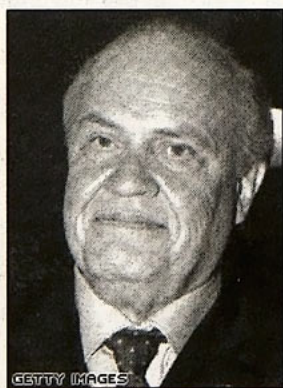
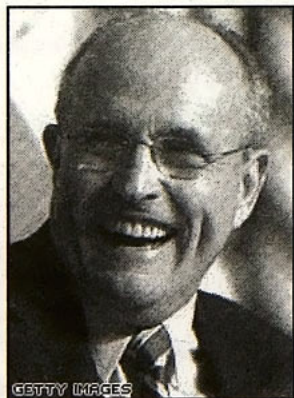
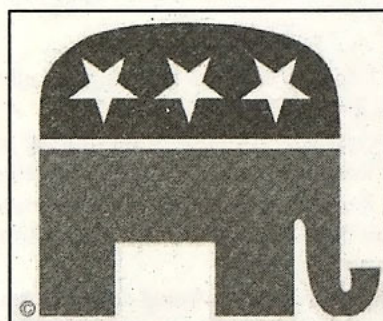
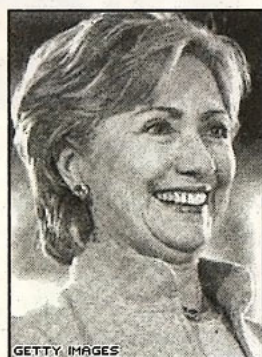
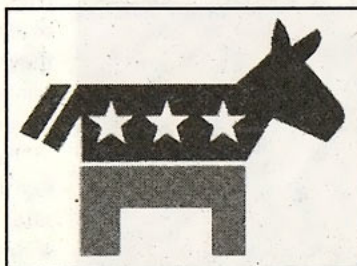
Millions of dollars have been raised, numerous debates have taken place and recently even a comedian

possibly has entered the race, all of which stir up an already foggy picture of who the next American president will be.

This isn't just a far-off national problem. Several members of the Concordia community have also expressed their thoughts and anxieties about the abundance of possible candidates and numerous major issues.

With next November's Republican National Convention in Minnesota, the election may become a larger issue to Minnesotans. The site of the convention adds more questions as well to the election picture as Republicans and Democrats both wonder how it will affect the race.

Of course, everyone has their opinions and personal desires for the coming election. Some already know who they will vote for, while many others are only beginning to process next year's election. No matter their views, however, one feeling seems to be felt by all at this point: indecision.



## CONCORDIA SPEAKS

Compiled by Lance Meyer

All photos courtesy of Lance Meyer



Courtney Moriarty  
Freshman

"Some people think I'm crazy, but I think Rudy Giuliani would be a great president. He really showed what he can do during 9/11 in NYC, and I think he would be a strong leader for this country...I think Stephen Colbert's a big joke.... Maybe he is serious. The War will play a huge role in the upcoming election. I think that the candidates will try to win support by pushing to pull the troops out, because a lot of people are unhappy with Bush's progress in the Middle East."

Amanda Bearson  
Sophomore

"I would vote for Hillary Clinton, preferably a Clinton-Edwards ticket in next year's election...Even though I am a huge fan of Stephen Colbert's show and support his reasons for running, I wouldn't vote for him.... Health care, the deficit, and the environment should be the major issues in the election, and I don't think the war will play that pivotal of a role... I really do not see the convention dictating the vote that much. Minnesota has voted Democratic for president in 11 of the last 12 presidential elections...."

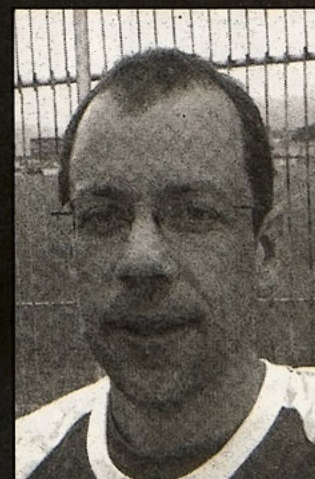


Michael Brooks  
Senior

"The 'War on Terrorism' in Afghanistan is the most important issue in the 2008 election. I believe that the Republican National Convention being held in Minneapolis will have some affect [on] the 2008 elections. That ... will not override the mental picture many people have of the 'War on Terrorism' and what President Bush has done over the past eight years. The Republican Party will make efforts to convince citizen of Twins Cities that electing the Republican Party Candidate would be in the best interest of the American society which I think is a very false reality."

Dr. Thomas Saylor  
History Professor

"I'm still sorting out the main candidates, haven't made a firm choice. I would not vote for Stephen Colbert, but it's indicative of the blurring between information and entertainment, politics and personality, in our society today. When looking at the issues, it's important to be open-minded and tolerant; prepared to initiate substantive, positive change on questions such as health care access and efficiency; demonstrate adherence to international and national laws; work to rebuild US image in the world. Minnesota's hosting the upcoming Republican National Convention won't matter. Minnesota has consistently voted Democrat, and the unpopularity of Cheney-Bush will likely ensure this continues."





## Extra, extra, extra!

### Two-week pilot newspaper readership ending

By Tim Sailer



The campus has been crawling with print journalism in the past few weeks. In addition to newspapers like "The Metro Lutheran," "The Onion," "The Minnesota Daily" and "The Sword," three other papers have been free and available to the Concordia Campus: "USA Today," "The New York Times" and "Pioneer Press."

For the past two weeks, Student Senate has piloted a new "USA Today" Collegiate Readership Program. It has been established in over 500 college campuses across the nation. Concordia is now at the end of the free pilot program, and the decision to maintain (and pay) for the newspapers is looming.

Students won't have to pay for individual papers, however. The money will have to come from the Student Senate budget.

Billy Schultz, student body president, explained that the University would pay for any paper that has been taken from the stands. The price will vary from each week.

"If there are 150 papers and 130 are left at the end of the day, we only pay for 20 newspapers," said Schultz.

The decision to maintain the program will be determined from two surveys and a vote by the Student Senate. On Tuesday, Nov. 6, senators offered candy to students willing to

complete a newspaper interest survey. Schultz said over 300 surveys were completed. A final follow-up survey will be conducted on Thursday, Nov. 15. An independent company will compile the results and summarize the findings.

Student reaction seems to be in favor of the readership program.

Senior Jameson Baxter said,

"There's so much information...it's quite spectacular."

"I've read [the newspapers] everyday since it's been out. I like it a

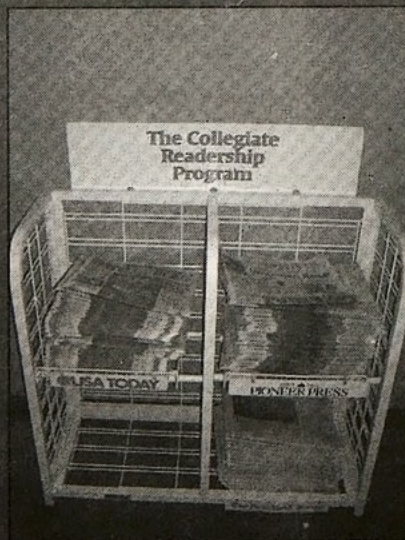
lot. I know more about the world," said junior Shelly Schwalm. She continued to tell a story about a dining hall, noting the meal was spent talking about illegal immigrants rather than throwing food at each other.

Schultz said he'd love to see the program continue as well. Still, he said, "it's not the cheapest program."

The decision will be made soon. Students' responses to the surveys and other input to Student Senate will be the key factors in determining the fate of the Collegiate Readership Program. For more information, visit <http://www.usatoday.com/educate/readers/home.htm>.



Photo of available campus newspapers  
Photo courtesy of Tim Sailer



## Steves' convocation wrap-up

By Kaitlin Hartnett

Rick Steves, expert traveler, emphasized the importance of how his education, faith and travels have shaped his life at the November 9 convocation at the Buetow Auditorium. He said he felt like living out of a suitcase helped detach him from the materialistic world that most people in the United States live in.

Steves, who claimed that he has spent almost a third of his adult life traveling out of a suitcase, made a point where other cultures use a different economic theology than this country. According to him, the citizens of the U.S. use a theology of what we are lacking, even though, we are the

wealthy people of the world, and we still want. Citizens in other countries, he said, use a theology of abundance; even though they are poor, there is still joy in giving what they have to one another.

"Half of the world is trying to live on \$2 a day," he said. "Travel makes a person wiser but less happy."

Hannah Schmitz, who attended the convocation for class, said that it was informative and worth taking time to listen to.

"He seemed to have a large amount of knowledge about the world and other cultures," she said. "It was more interesting than I thought it would be."

Despite all of his world travels and experience with other cultures, Steves said that no matter the religion, the love of God is a "beautiful thing."

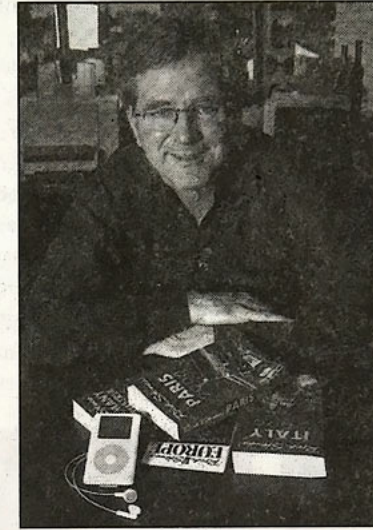


Photo courtesy of Rick Steves

## Student Senate update

By Billy Schultz

- Student Senate meets every Friday in LTC 218 at 2 p.m., and all students are welcome to attend. We may even have food!
- Newspapers, newspapers everywhere! If you've found yourself reading the newspaper a bit more lately, you're not alone. Student Senate has partnered with "USA Today" to offer a pilot of the Collegiate Readership Program, which began on November 5th and ends November 16th. You can find the papers in the Union, Tunnel by Tier Zero and Pearson Commons.
- The Bear Den now has cable, and research is being done to install more televisions.
- Winter Formal is Friday, Dec. 7th at the Landmark Center in St. Paul. Tickets are \$15/each or \$25/pair.
- Day at the Capitol is Wednesday, March 26th. Look for more info in the near future.
- Our website is: <http://concordia.csp.edu/StudentSenate/index.html>

## Pizza Recall

Contributed by the Sword

Our pizza is infected! Nooooo! General Mills has issued a recall of Totino's and Jeno's brands of frozen pizza. There has been an investigation as to whether these products have been the root cause of an E. Coli contamination that has infected at least 21 individuals. The companies have already recalled five million pizzas, though millions more have already been sold to, and possibly ingested by, consumers.

The pizzas being recalled are the varieties containing pepperoni, including combination, supreme, and three meat pizzas.

E. Coli is a dangerous bacterium that can have devastating effects on anyone who is exposed to it. Health officials are advising you to throw away any products that fit this description and to report any cases of E. Coli in your area. Eat safe!





## "Into the Woods" preview

By Kaitlin Hartnett

Coming to the Pearson Theater on November 15 is "Into the Woods," a story where everyone's happily ever after comes true, but what does "happily ever after" really mean? Directed by Randy Winkler, the musical is the story of intertwining fairy tale characters who actually try to deal with the "real" after their wishes come true.

Joanna Gimbel, who plays Little Red Riding Hood and is the assistant costume shop manager, said that it is what happens after the tale. Even though they are fairy tale characters, life is not always a fairy tale. What happens to Cinderella after knowing her prince for only one night

before marrying him? How does one get rid of a giant in their backyard?

"It's like reality sets in," she said. "It makes you rethink what reality is, and that life is not a fairy tale."

As for the Concordia production of the show, Gimbel said that it was going really well. The cast is about 20-25, so it is a larger show.

"We still have a lot to do, because it's such a big show," she said. "But I think everything will turn out well. We have a lot of talented actors that lend their personalities to



Photos of "Into the Woods" rehearsal  
Photos courtesy of Kaitlin Hartnett



the characters."

## Jack Sparrow Wants YOU to Write for The Sword!

The Sword staff is looking for writers & photographers!

Being involved with the most talked-about news publication on-campus is FUN... looks GREAT on a resume...allows you to meet NEW people... and the best part?  
**YOU GET PAID!**



Photo Courtesy of  
www.britfilms.tv

Contact Editor Kaitlin Hartnett  
at hartnetk@csp.edu if you are interested!

## Winter Formal Info

Contributed by Elizabeth Caulkins

**Date:** December 7th, 2007

**Location:** The Landmark Center, Downtown St. Paul

**Time:** 8 p.m.-12 a.m.

**Ticket costs:**

1 ticket--\$15

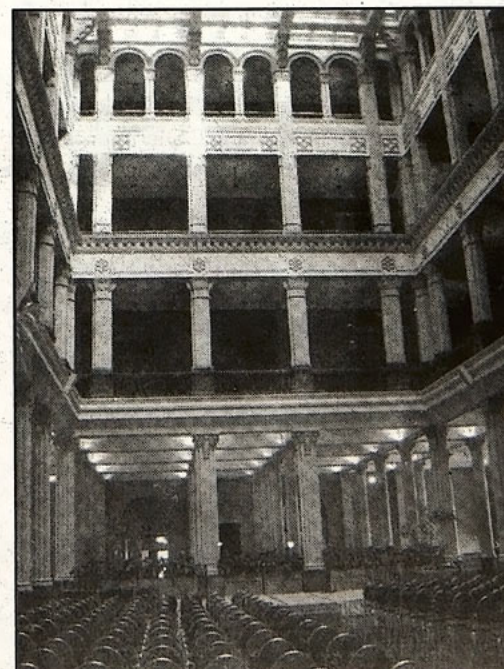
2 tickets--\$25

**Dress code:** formal

**DJs:** Adrian Perryman and Andy Wyss



Bring back your formal wear after Thanksgiving Break!





## Craigslist murder: A reality check?

By Lance Meyer

Craigslist, an internationally used website that posts classifieds for everything from consumer products to employment opportunities, has been a hot topic in the news in recent weeks.

In light of the Oct. 26 murder of a Craigslist user, people have understandably become quite concerned, given the possible dangerous circumstances associated with the site. Questions were instantly raised in the aftermath of the tragedy regarding not only the safety of Craigslist but also internet bargaining sites in general.

San Francisco resident Craig Newmark started the site in 1995 as a friendly way for people to help each other out in the Bay Area where he lived. The site grew very rapidly into what it is today, but with October's tragic events, the site's good intentions have been brought into question by users and non-users alike.

"I never even thought twice about using the site," said Concordia staff member Kelly Dotson. "People just always seemed very friendly and were excited to get rid of whatever they were selling!" When asked what her future plans with using the site, Dotson replied, "I still plan to use it; I can't let one bad experience ruin the convenience and the great service Craigslist provides."



Katherine Ann Olson was murdered Oct. 26 after answering an ad for Craigslist. Photo courtesy of her family.

Another Craigslist user from Concordia, Senior Kaitlin Hartnett added, "It's terrible that this happened; Craigslist is such a convenient site, and it can save people a lot of money."

Sure it may save some money, but if the person who posted the classified can't be trusted when picking up a purchase or answering a job ad, is it really worth it just to save an extra buck?

Dotson and Hartnett both stressed that people just have to be more careful when using the site. "I don't really think it's Craigslist's problem," added Dotson. "I think buyers and sellers both

need to be smart and take initiatives, like meeting in public places or with others, in order to be safe."

When asked about her future use of the site, Hartnett replied, "I will continue to use the site, but I will always make sure that the area/person is legit and safe, either by investigating first or taking someone with me."

One simple precaution is to make sure a friend accompanies when picking up a product from a site like Craigslist. With such precautions, people will likely be able to continuing the website and its services. It can remain, as Dotson says, a place for people "to share their resources and reduce waste."

## 7 Easy Steps for Using Craigslist Safely

### Step One

Think before you meet. If you must meet someone in person to either exchange goods or to start a social group, your first meeting should always be held in a public place. Always let a friend or family member know where you are going and when you plan on returning.

### Step Two

Never let your guard down. Even once you have met the other individual and start to feel comfortable, never let your guard down. Unfortunately, some people are professionals when it comes to scamming. Do not agree to "go some place quieter."

### Step Three

Never post or exchange personal information. This includes such things as your home address, along with any financial information.

### Step Four

Be sure to always have a contract. Many people use Craigslist to arrange freelance work. Whether it be writing, Web site design or anything else, never do the work without a detailed contract.

### Step Five

Deal locally. When looking to buy or sell, try to arrange the transaction with someone from your area. This is relatively easy since Craigslist is organized by location.

### Step Six

Never wire money. If a person is only willing to sell you something after you wire them the agreed upon money, this is a sure sign of a scam. Wire transfers are not traceable and cannot be cancelled.

### Step Seven

Avoid paying shipping services. If a transaction requires you pay extra for the cost of either a shipping or escrow service, this is most likely a scam. If not possible to exchange face to face, all goods should be sent via mail or a recognized delivery system such as UPS, FedEx or DHL.

--List courtesy of [www.ehow.com](http://www.ehow.com)

## This Week in History...

Courtesy of The New York Times

1777: The Continental Congress approved the Articles of Confederation, precursor to the U.S. Constitution.

1806: Explorer Zebulon Pike spotted the mountaintop now known as Pikes Peak.

1864: Union Gen. William T. Sherman and his troops began their "March to the Sea" during the Civil War.

1889: Brazil's monarchy was overthrown.

1907: Oklahoma became the 46th state.

1926: The National Broadcasting Co. debuted with a radio network of 24 stations.

1939: President Franklin D. Roosevelt laid the cornerstone of the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C.

1940: The first 75,000 men were called to armed forces duty under peacetime conscription.

1959: The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "The Sound of Music" opened on Broadway.

1982: Funeral services were held in Moscow for Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev.

1984: Baby Fae, the month-old infant who had received a baboon's heart to replace her own congenitally deformed one, died at a California

medical center three weeks after the transplant.

1985: Britain and Ireland signed an accord giving Dublin an official consultative role in governing Northern Ireland.

1986: A government tribunal in Nicaragua convicted American Eugene Hasenfus of delivering arms to Contra rebels and sentenced him to 30 years in prison. He was pardoned a month later.

1988: The Palestine National Council, the legislative body of the PLO, proclaimed the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

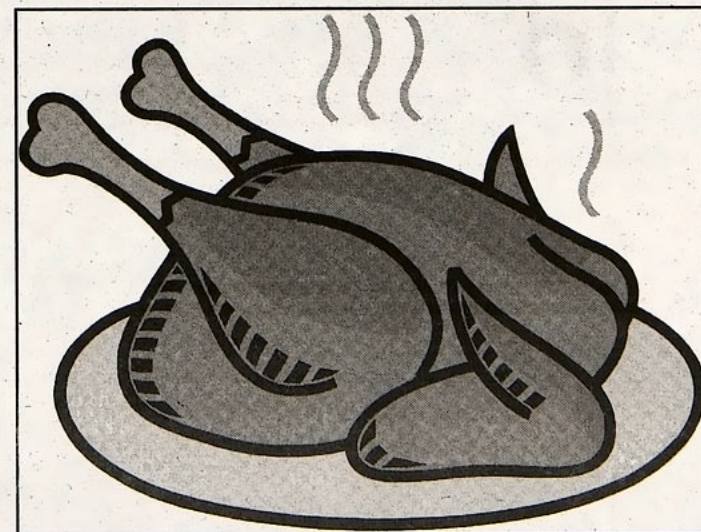
1993: A judge in Mineola, N.Y., sentenced Joey Buttafuoco to six months in jail for the statutory rape of Amy Fisher, who shot and wounded Buttafuoco's wife, Mary Jo.

2002: Hu Jintao replaced Jiang Zemin as China's Communist Party leader.

2004: President George W. Bush picked National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice to be his new secretary of state, succeeding Colin Powell.

2005: Baseball players and owners agreed on a tougher steroids-testing policy.

*The Sword staff  
wishes everyone a very  
happy Thanksgiving!*





# Tragically Routine

By Sai Togboh Schandorf

In a land far, far away there exists a crisis of biblical proportions: 1.5 million people spread throughout 22 countries in sub-Saharan Africa are dealing with the worst floods the region has seen in 30 years. The initial death toll stood at around 300 but is expected to steadily climb higher as diseases, such as malaria, reek havoc on victims who are unable to reach medical facilities. Unfortunately, the far, far away land is apparently too disconnected from world interests to be helped in a meaningful way.

International aid has been slow, to say the least. The European Union pledged about 1 million Euros to the cause while the U.S. committed \$100,000 to Uganda. The complete lack of concern world powers, such as the U.S., has shown is dumbfounding. For a country that seems constantly in search of somewhere to be heroic, \$100,000 is hardly cause to break out the red cape. Even after taking into account the

lopsided currency exchange present in most African countries, Europe and the U.S. have done very little to help. In the not so distant past, European countries and the United States willingly stood together in a decision to aid Iraq. Would it not be less of a risk to aid starving African flood victims than fight a war with irritated Arab jihadists?

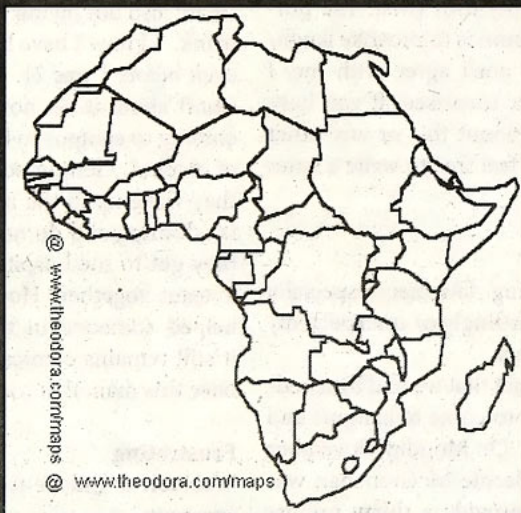
To be fair, the world currently has a lot on the proverbial plate. Perhaps an aid mission will come in the near future. Unless the near future is tomorrow, however, it may be too late. Waiting until the flood waters recede to give aid is not an option. The lives and property that have been lost are only a precursor of what is to come. Sudan is a perfect example of the worst case scenario faced by the affected nations. The hardest hit region of Sudan, the north, provides the country with the vast majority of its domestically grown crops. Sudan's farmland, like the agricultural centers of the U.S., is not home

to many health care facilities. When flooding began, the rudimentary back roads commonly found in the country side were the first to be washed away. As the waters become a festering soup of rotting crops, corpses, and live stock, disease will run rampant among the survivors. With no easily accessible hospitals and no roads to leave the area, the people of northern Sudan have been left out to dry in what is currently one of the wettest places on earth. To make matters worse, the rest of the country will have to quickly figure out how to keep its food stock from disappearing with out replenishment from the north. Sudan's nightmare may be repeated in many of the affected countries. By the time Africa dries out, the death toll is projected to be in the thousands.

What disgusts me more than the international community's lack of support is the media's relaxed coverage of the flooding. Any mention of the situation has been brief and seldom. In stark contrast, the wildfires in California were covered as if the apocalypse was

riding in on the flames. A grand total of twelve deaths are blamed directly on the fires. When the rains hit the Congo at the end of October it took less than 24 hours for 30 people to die. Somehow that ranked low on most news syndicates' lists of priorities.

It is a sad state of affairs when the importance and shock value of a story are deemed the same thing. Africa is a place we have become accustomed to seeing in trouble. Unfortunately, that makes it less appealing to reporters. Has tragedy become a word that only demands attention when not associated with the developing world? Loss of life is no less tragic "over there" than in our backyard. Out of the many things in life that can easily become routine, tragedy should not be one of them. Even the most troubled areas of the world deserve the passion of activists.



# Finals Week Tips

Help for the Real College Student

By Jon Palmer

It's mid-November. There is a dark cloud looming over the horizon; its approach is swift and unrelenting. No matter where you are, no matter what you are doing, it's coming. Day or night, it approaches. Waking or sleeping, it's coming closer—and there's nothing you can do about it.

It's finals week—the ultimate gut-check, the liberal arts gauntlet every freshman and senior is destined to run, the fire in which academic legends are forged.

Also, you have a lot of tests.

Right about this time of year, some article chock-full of late-semester tips is published. It's full of truly sensible advice for those who listen to it. However, there's a problem: every bit of advice given in pre-finals articles caters to an incredibly small portion of the college student population. The tips are great—budget your time, get enough sleep, prioritize, eat breakfast—but these tips make up a disciplined lifestyle that typical college students simply cannot adopt. If they could, they'd have already done it and they wouldn't need finals advice.

And so, I propose these new solutions to the timeless problem of finals, presenting them to college's everyman—the tragically undisciplined, the chronically procrastinating, the college student pressed for every minute his scholastic and social life can afford him.

We all know finals week brings lots of tests, but it also brings countless papers and presentations. Rather than radical shifts in lifestyle that involve changing one's entire life schedule during finals week, I will empower students with tools that can be used continuously leading up to finals. You can even start using them right now.

We've all written our fair share of papers. As a sixth-year senior English major, I have written 3.49 times my fair share of papers. Let my ex-

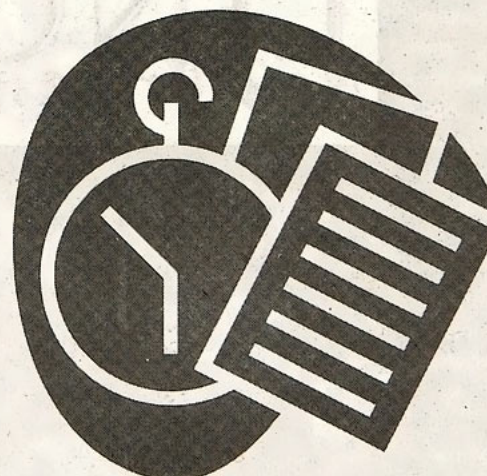
perience teach you this: every paper you ever write boils down to making an argument and supporting it with textual facts.

As finals week approaches, make argument-and-support an integral part of your daily routine. If someone asks you a question, offer a well-articulated thesis as your answer, and give supporting examples until that person is convinced. If needed, carry helpful texts with you at all times. Collegiate dictionaries, the Bible and classic works of literature have been particularly helpful throughout my college experience. A comprehensive book of quotations is an unnecessary but helpful tool.

Along with big papers come big presentations. Everyone gets nervous about public speaking; the way one must conduct oneself during presentations just doesn't feel natural. To fix this, make big presentations natural. If you know you're going to discuss an issue with someone, come prepared to speak. Posters and other visual aids will help build familiarity with the finals week atmosphere.

Speak formally and clearly so that everyone in the room can hear you. Maintain good posture and eye contact. You'll get acclimated in no time.

Taking simple, practical steps like these will create the finals week atmosphere everywhere you go. When the actual finals roll around, you will be relaxed and poised to do your best. Good luck as we approach the end of the semester.





## LINC New Orleans

By Steven Namanny



Photo courtesy of Erin Anderson

New Orleans holds a population of around 220,000, half of what it was before hurricane Katrina. Because half the people have left, the neighborhoods are filled with abandoned homes. And in neighborhoods filled with abandoned homes, building communities becomes a difficult task. LINCNew Orleans exists to focus on the rebuilding of communities.

LINCNew Orleans was started this past summer. Christie and Kevin Kieschnick are heading up the agency, supervising two interns from Concordia Chicago (Alex LaChapelle and Susan Foglemann), a vicar from St. Louis Seminary (Billy Brath), and me.

The agency works towards seeking, identifying, and equipping local leaders of New Orleans to lead communities toward improvement.

One example of building up local leaders can be seen in Leading Inside Out, a program in the beginning stages started by Christie Kieschnick. Leading Inside Out is a women's leadership training course. Throughout the course, attendees seek out their gifts and inner passions so they can develop their lead-

ership roles and skills.

LINCNew Orleans is also focused on helping develop communities of faith and expressions of faith within these communities. "There are hundreds of thousands of people in the city and around the nation that are desperately seeking a spiritual connection with God and community, but for whatever reason will never walk into an institutional church," said Kevin Kieschnick.

LINCNew Orleans wants people to know that the typical Sunday morning worship service is not the only way to worship God.

The idea is to find ways to encourage development of alternative expressions of faith, especially through social action, human care, and personal relationships. "We don't want to rebuild a failing system. In fact, we don't want to build a system at all. We want to empower people to express their faith in God through whatever means that matches with their personal gifts," said Kevin Kieschnick.

Kevin Kieschnick.

The system is to be open and allow individuals and communities to express their faith in God in the ways that they can and to not fit any person or community into a mold that s/he/they cannot fit into.

LINCNew Orleans is about encouraging and empowering people to do just that because

God can be worshipped in various ways according to our gifts.

The hope is that these communities of faith be open and safe environments where expressions of love, trust, disappointment, anger etc. are allowed and respected.

What would you say are the gifts you have been given? Free yourself from others and use your gifts to the fullest. <http://www.lincneworleans.org/>



Above photo: Kevin and Christie Kieschnick  
Photo and logo courtesy of Steven Namanny.

## Stephen Speaks Out, v. III

By Stephen Batcher



Photo courtesy of Stephen Batcher

This is the third edition of Stephen Speaks Out; my OPINION piece where I take the definition of everyday words and give them my own twist. The purpose of this column is to provoke laughter, and if you don't agree with me, I won't be hurt or surprised. If you have any comments about this or any other opinion pieces, feel free to write a letter to the Sword.

### Comical

**Webster:** causing laughter, especially because of a startlingly or unexpectedly humorous impact.

**Stephen:** The fact that we had to schedule a comedian to come to campus and discuss alcohol. On Monday November 12, comedian Bernie McGrenahan was on campus to provide a thirty minute comedy show followed by a thirty minute speech about the consequences of alcohol. This show was mandatory for athletes, because problems with alcohol consumption have plagued a few teams so far this fall. I think it is hilarious that we have to have a speaker come and give a speech regarding the dangers of alcohol consumption.

Why? First of all, it's embarrassing and funny that our athletic department has to put this show together because some people have been, well, stupid. Now, I do not find it surprising that the focus is on athletes, but it is unfair that a few stupid people's mistakes have resulted in punishment for the whole group. I know there are other students who have their own alcohol problems.

You may be wondering why this became a problem for our campus. Let me give you some background information. Recently, there has been a tendency for freshmen athletes to be hazed. A few particulars stick out in my mind, such as freshman coming back from the football house after freshman initiation, or

the soccer player last year who was arrested. The track team had a few problems this year, as did the baseball team this year as well as a few years back.

I do not have a problem with hazing or initiations; in fact, I support them. But here is the problem: whoever made it mandatory that athletes have to get beligerently drunk in order to be a part of the team is an idiot. I am not saying that we should use paddles to beat freshman either, as in "Fast Times at Ridgemont High." However, people in charge of initiation should be creative and use tactics that will actually bring the team together while still embarrassing the freshman. For example, the initiators could make freshmen wear dresses to class one day, or sing in the lunch room. One can successfully haze without causing physical damage that can kill.

I am also not saying that students can't drink. I know I have had a few drinks--even before I was 21. The point is to be smart about it. So now we have a man coming to campus to tell us the dangers of alcohol. Getting someone so drunk they wake up in the morning in hospital clothing and do not remember how they got to the hospital does not bring a team together. Hopefully this man helped someone in the audience, but it still remains comical that we have to have this man, this comedian, come.

### Frustrating

**Webster:** to induce feelings of discouragement.

**Stephen:** The fact that the internet connection on campus and in the apartments is awful. I can not count how many times the internet has been down or how the home page has been so slow. I know that the IT department has been working hard on trying to fix this, but I wonder how this can happen every year. It seems we can never figure it out. The internet in the apartments is even worse; why is Comcast in control of it? This makes no sense; it should all be a part of the Concordia Network. It is annoying that we cannot print from our rooms in the campus apartments. I do not see how it is so hard to make it work on a campus wide area, and why, with so many routers, it is such a problem. Printing seems to always be a nightmare here. I just don't understand why this is always a problem. It is frustrating to deal with every year.



# Peterson the only bright spot for Minnesota sports?

By Lance Meyer



Photo courtesy of CSP Athletics

Two weekends ago, I was given two free tickets and a chance to attend the Vikings/Chargers game at the Metrodome. I jumped at the opportunity and assumed when I received the hundred dollar tickets that I would easily find someone to go with me.

With the game being between two struggling teams, however, I quickly learned that my assumptions were wrong.

Phone call after phone call came up empty as everyone came up with lame excuses not to go see two of the top running backs in the league go head to head. Everything from homework to meaningless intramural football games took precedence over a NFL game that featured last year's MVP LaDainian Tomlinson and this year's leading rusher Adrian Peterson.

When I think about it though, I don't really blame them.

The reality is, being a Minnesota sports fan over the past couple months hasn't been easy to swallow. The results just haven't been there recently as several of Min-

nesota's beloved teams have struggled through rebuilding processes and coaching changes.

The difficulties people are having with forking over \$100--or even just their time--on a Sunday afternoon to attend a Vikings game this fall are understandable, given the circumstances. The Vikings not only missed the playoffs the last two seasons, but they are already off to a bumpy start this fall.

The worse part about the Vikings' 3-5 start is that it has just added fuel to an already burning fire. Several other Minnesota teams have also done their part in not giving the fans anything to cheer about over the past couple months.

The Minnesota



Photos courtesy of Lance Meyer

nesota Gopher football team has probably been the biggest disappointment of the year. They are currently 1-9 with only a couple games remaining in what has turned out to be a nightmare first season for head coach Tim Brewster.

The Timberwolves, after trading their franchise player Kevin Garnett this past summer, have also

gotten off to a bad start as they remain winless just over a week into the season. The future doesn't look especially bright for the Wolves either as they will have to

play the next few weeks without two of their starters, Randy Foye and Rashad McCants.

So, with everything that's been disappointing this fall, it's no wonder why thousands of people would rather save their money by staying home on a Sunday afternoon to watch the game on television, savoring the ability to change the channel.

The Chargers game was even nearly blacked out on television due to a lack of ticket sales leading up to the game. The Vikings' sellout streak was ex-

tended, however, as the seats eventually filled up, but will even a capacity crowd be able to redeem the fans' faith in their hometown team?

If another sell-out at the Dome doesn't make people jump back on the band wagon, Peterson's performance lately should do the trick. He has definitely done his part in recent weeks, rushing for a record-breaking 296 yards and three touchdowns in the game I attended alone.

So even though life hasn't been too good lately for the Minnesota sports fans, things are likely to change if Peterson continues to run all over his opponents.

Now we can only hope that some-one steps for the Gophers and Wolves to redeem them in the same way. Not likely...but it could happen.

## A Time for Thanks

By President Bob Holst

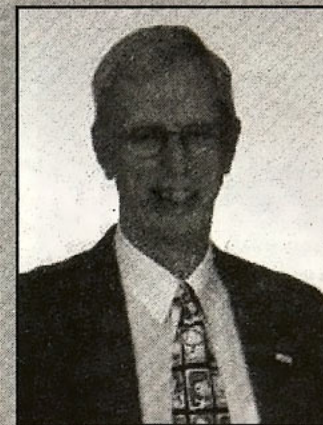


Photo courtesy Concordia University

Thanksgiving Day. The Canadians set aside the second Monday in October as a national day of gratitude. The USA marks the fourth Thursday in November for the national Thanksgiving holiday. When really is Thanksgiving Day? Actually, the date stands unimportant; the intent carries importance. Yet Thanksgiving Day brings a timely reminder because, as the fall semester hurries to a close, the pressures of tests, papers and reports tempt us to block out thoughts of daily good and to erect barriers to gratitude.

At Thanksgiving, I reflect on one of my favorite Bible passages, i.e. Philippians 4:8. "Fill your minds with things that are good and deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely and honorable." I remember when our children were small, after tucking them in bed and joining them in prayer, my wife or I would ask, "What was your happiest thing today?" In an adult world where news reports often accentuated tragedy and wrong, the gratitude of little children helped us see the world and our daily lives with the praise of positive innocence.

As our theme of the year calls us to be "A Community for Unity," may the intent of Thanksgiving Day remind us that the pressures of living and learning together should not overshadow daily gratitude or rob us of time to think about things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely and honorable. Such things elevate personal gratitude and create community solidarity. They remind me of God's goodness in Jesus Christ. Happy Thanksgiving Day and may every day be happy with thanksgiving. President Bob Holst



## Minnesota Public Radio: Not just for our grandparents anymore

By Sydnee Bickett

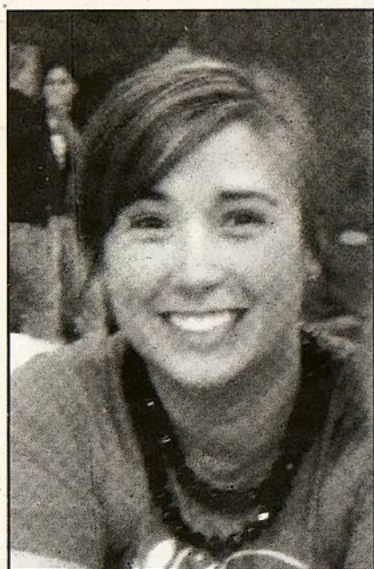


Photo courtesy of Sydnee Bickett

As a student commuting daily from Richfield, Minn., I spend a great deal of time in my car. To help pass the time, I usually listen to a variety of radio stations or my iPod. Recently, I've found myself addicted to Minnesota Public Radio (MPR) (91.1).

Let me preface this by stating that I spent the summer after my freshman year of college working in the back of a screen-printing business, catching t-shirts as they came off the steaming hot presses, folding them into piles according to size. That summer happened to be one of the hottest I can remember. The heat, combined with the fanatical conservatism of Rush Limbaugh blasting off the airwaves, made the summer even worse. My co-workers chose to listen to Mr. Limbaugh daily and I loathed every second of it. His loud obnoxious comments still bring me nightmares.

From that point forward, every time I heard voices speaking—rather than singing—on a radio station, I shuddered and turned the station immediately to something more pleasant. For this reason, I found myself shocked and amused at my recent addiction to Minnesota Public Radio.

After my journalism professor suggested we turn to MPR as a news source, I decided to try 91.1. I was apprehensive, to say the least. However, I was drawn in to the station from the beginning. I was pleasantly surprised to feel so connected to the discussions. The first one, for example, focused on college-aged voters'

political apathy. I wanted to hear more and so I began listening every day.

I have not been disappointed. I remember, for example, the day Eboo Patel, founder of the InterFaith Youth Core, discussed his newest book "Acts of Faith." Religion and Ethics News-Weekly describes Patel as "a Muslim, a dynamic 31-year-old Indian American—a Rhodes Scholar with a doctorate in sociology and a passion for mobilizing the young." Hearing Patel speak about his ideas for religious pluralism scared me at first. I kept glancing at my cell phone, thinking my religious family members were bound to call, suspecting I was stepping outside the bounds of our Lutheran faith and values. I shrugged these thoughts aside and attempted to listen to Patel with an unbiased ear.

Patel read from his newest book and with each word, more goose bumps appeared on my skin. "Show me a religion that doesn't care about compassion. Show me a religion that doesn't care about stewardship of the environment. Show me a religion that doesn't care about hospitality... I believe America is humanity's best opportunity to make God's wish that we come to know one another a reality... We live in a world where the forces that seek to divide us are strong. To overcome them, we must do more than simply stand next to one another in silence."

Patel continued to speak about the importance of people of all faiths joining together to make a positive impact on the world. I was riveted.

I encourage readers to take advantage of MPR's many programs so that our generation can become better informed

and make an impact on the world.

"In the Loop" is a program which "combines music, interviews, humor, and audience discussion for an engaging and surprising look at issues on the public mind." The event is free, offered every Thursday at 6 pm and you (well, your voice) might even be on the radio! New topics are discussed each week, varying from money and charity to health care and adult bullying. MPR takes topics from their Public Insight Network and molds the show around what listeners want to hear about. I attended this event last week (Bullying for Grown-

ups was the topic) and it was a blast!

Policy and a Pint is another event that MPR offers with the goal of making citizens more aware. It is a cooperative effort advertised as "an after-work speaker series sponsored by The Current and The Citizen's League." Christina Schmidt, media relations contact for The Current, stated that the event is "meant to activate listeners to become more involved in the community. Timely issues are discussed in an informal setting."

Drinks and appetizers are served prior to a city-council meeting style forum where hot-button issues such as health care, environmentalism, elections and national debt have been discussed. MPR hasn't yet released the dates and topics of future events. The event is only \$5 for students and requires an RSVP.

The Current created an on-going series of events called "Fakebook," which pairs local musicians with authors for a night of music and literature. The event is held on a semi-regular basis at The Fitzgerald Theatre and more information about guests and dates can be found on MPR.org.

Even the MPR website is user-friendly enough to make it a part of your daily web-surfing. Current events happening in Minnesota and the world are broadcast on the website if a radio isn't available, and now you can even listen to the daily broadcasts online.

If attending these events seems unreasonable, consider joining MPR's Public Insight Network (<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/publicinsightjournalism/>). MPR's website said, "Your knowledge is news. It's a radical idea, but it shouldn't be: Your stories and insights can teach us more about the world around us than a press release or a wire report. Help us cover the news from the ground up." All it takes is filling out a basic form on the website and MPR will contact you, asking for your help and expertise in covering news stories. Topics for events such as In the Loop and Policy and a Pint were contributed by MPR's Public Insight Network.

With the Collegiate Readership Program potentially making itself a permanent fixture on our campus, with In the Loop and Policy and a Pint, with this small publication near and dear to our hearts, and the World Wide Web at our fingertips, it would be a shame if we proved Thomas Friedman right and remained "a quiet generation." Join me in proving him wrong.

## Concealed Weapons

By Wade Johnson



Photo courtesy of Wade Johnson

Wade started attending Concordia in the Fall of 2004 and is also a part-time security guard on campus. Currently, he is at Fort Benning, Georgia attending Basic Officer Leadership Course for the Army Reserve. He will be retuning in Fall of 2008. He urges anyone that has questions about his following piece to email him at [johnsonw3@csp.edu](mailto:johnsonw3@csp.edu).

In 2003, Minnesota joined 47 other states that allow citizens the right to carry a pistol for the purpose of self defense. In most of these states, including Minnesota, citizens will not be denied this right unless they are a felon, a mental health patient, or in negative standings with a local official. Also, they must be 21 years old, which is the age required to buy a handgun in Minnesota.

For the most part, this right extends everywhere with the exception of federal buildings, elementary and high schools, and day cares. Also, any private business maintains the right to post their property and ban guns from their premises. Universities and colleges are allowed to make policies forbidding their students and employees from carrying firearms or other weapons without having to post their premises in accordance with state law. Concordia University, for example, has a policy that forbids carrying any personal weapons. A visitor may carry while on campus but when they become a student or employee, they lose that right.

I know I am not the only one that has a problem with that policy. I see no reason that someone should lose their right to defend themselves just because they cross over the boundary of being on university property. Violent crimes are committed every day on campuses all across the United States and in most of these incidents, students are left completely defenseless because of their school's policy. Some may argue that having firearms will add to the crimes already present, but it





## "Generation Q?" Maybe not

By The Sword staff

On November 5, Student Senate released a two-week pilot program of the Collegiate Readership project. The goal of this project, according to Student Body President Billy Schultz, is to encourage college students to get more involved with the world beyond campus.

New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman labeled this generation "Generation Q," the "Q" standing for quiet. "The Quiet Americans" to be exact. He says that we are more "optimistic" than we should be, and not as "politically engaged" as we need to be. He goes on to say that "Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy didn't change the world by asking people to join their Facebook crusades or to download their platforms. Activism can only be uploaded, the old-fashioned way — by young voters speaking truth to power, face to face, in big numbers, on campuses or the Washington Mall. Virtual politics is just that — virtual."

To us, and (we hope) other twentysomethings, an opinion such as this will try to make us reconsider our priorities, and make us realize what we are (and are not) aware of. Student Senate and the pilot of the Collegiate Readership program could help do this.

What if a student government paid to have free newspapers on campus, not just the "Sword" or the "Onion," but papers you would normally have to pay for, like USA Today, the New York Times, and the Pioneer Press? Would it encourage student to read more, to be more involved with the world around them? If we read more newspapers, would we realize more of what we're missing, more of what we should be so ticked-off about, as Fried-

man reminds us several times? (To see the full article, go to [http://www.nytimes.com/2007/10/10/opinion/10friedman.html?\\_r=1&\\_oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/10/10/opinion/10friedman.html?_r=1&_oref=slogin)).

Although some may accuse a newspaper staff of being a little biased toward this subject, the fact is that some of us will be graduating in a year or two. We will become our parents, and we will have to face the consequences of our inactivity. Or so we are told. But let's face it, how many of us really know much about such politically charged issues such as global warming, Social Security or the deficit?

It can be prevented, however. We could be more involved, and it could start with just taking time to sit down and read the paper. This campus, and others like it, on their way to being more informed, and with an election just a year away that will determine the course of our country for the next four years, that is a good thing.

Our grandparents and parents grew up reading the newspaper and knowing what was happening in the world around them and by having this program on our campus, we are disproving Thomas Friedman's claim that twentysomethings are the "quiet generation."

To get involved in keeping this program on campus, talk to Billy Schultz, or any one of the student senators. The input is valuable as to what does and does not happen on this campus. Being informed and having an education are two of the best things that are available to the student, and they should be taken advantage of.

**The opinion of  
The Sword**

## Concealed weapons cont...

is important to remember that someone with a legal permit is a law abiding citizen. People that commit crimes obviously will not follow a school policy as they are already breaking federal and state laws. In 1999, during the peak of many gun control debates, ex-mafia hit man turned informant, Sammy "the bull" Gravano, gave an interview for Vanity Fair magazine. His quote sums up what I believe a criminal feels about gun control. He claims, "Gun control? It's the best thing you can do for crooks and gangsters. I want you to have nothing. If I'm a bad guy, I'm always gonna have a gun." If I were a criminal I would feel the same way. But since I am an honest citizen, I deserve the ability to protect myself and those around me.

A report was done by the Secret Ser-

vice shortly after the attacks at Columbine High School. The report involved 37 separate shootings that occurred at high schools in the United States. Their findings concluded that law enforcement only resolved three of the incidents by discharging their weapons. 12 of the attacks were stopped by either school faculty and staff or students themselves. Several of the incidents involved either a student or school faculty leaving the building and retrieving firearms from their vehicle.

With all that being said, I am asking that our own University consider revising our policy to make school not only a safer place but a place where our rights as citizens are not infringed upon.

## The power of *but*s in the Bible

*Praise be to God for the "but"*

By Adam Koglin

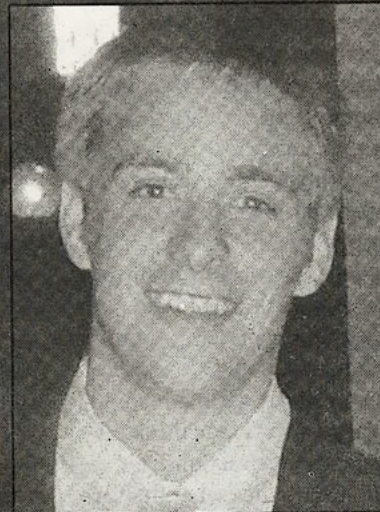


Photo courtesy of Adam Koglin

No one is righteous, not any one. What about us who know and have the law; are we any better off? This is the type of question being asked in Romans 3 starting at verse 9. The answer to this question is not a pleasant one. Paul is telling his audience that just because they have the law, does not mean they are better off.

What is this "law"? The law is the Ten Commandments that have been summed up by Christ as "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and love you neighbor as yourselves" (Matthew 22:37-39). This law is what speaks to all who are under it so that the whole world may be held accountable to God.

We as a people who have the law are not better off. There is nothing we can do. The text tells us that "all have turned aside...no one does good...their paths are ruin and misery...the way of peace they have not known...there is no fear of God." These words are not too promising; in fact, these words are very condemning. We might do all kinds of good, but we do not know the way of peace. This can be seen in our daily lives. Sometimes we find that the demands of our culture, family, university, and so forth cannot be met. There is always something more to buy, to do, to say. We just cannot keep up. That is a glimpse of the law of God: just how would you or I seriously meet God's standards? The standards are

just too high. The law has trapped us and through it no one is saved.

What can we do? We are trapped in a never ending battle that cannot be won. We have all turned aside and the law, the rules, the bad, or even the good that we try to do, which we have put our trust in will not save us or bring us back to the path of peace. If Paul stopped the text here, we would be wondering and lost. We have nothing to hope for. The only thing we know is that on our own we are all miserable, stressed, tired, and doomed.

But, praise be to God for the "but" because it does not end there. This all needed transition word is placed right after this section of doom that reminds us of the chains we are in.

"But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the Law."

God has made a way out, apart from the law. The law and the prophets, or in other words the whole Hebrew Bible, bear witness to this way out. This way out has been promised, pointed to, and hoped for this whole time, and Paul wants us to see it. Paul wants us to take hope in the fact that it does not depend on us trying to do good, but on God's saving love.

Do not be caught up in the never-ending battle that we on our own cannot win. Instead, be caught up in the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ. The law has shown us that "all have sinned and all have fallen short of the Glory of God." But, there is a free gift. This gift has justified us because of the redemption made possible through Jesus Christ our Lord. God has sent his only Son whom he loves to pay the ultimate price for each and every one of us on the cross. You, we, I have been died for. In Christ alone our hope is found. Praise be to God for his "but," because when we were weak, broken, and condemned, we were saved by the gift of Jesus Christ.

Grace and Peace to us all through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ



## The breakdown of student/teacher relationships

By Nikki Hertel



Photo courtesy of CSP Athletics

The age of innocence is regrettably coming to an end. The boundaries between students and teachers are being crossed. There has been an incredibly disturbing rise in the number of cases in which teachers are engaging in sexual relations with their students. The most recent case portrayed in the news was that of Kelsey Peterson, a 25-year-old teacher who had sexual relations with her 13-year-old student and then fled to Mexico with him.

This is just one of the dozens of accounts that have infected our daily news and have led us to question what is going on in our nation. To what do we owe this disconcerting phenomenon? Is it the media, movies, and television programming that are plagued with sex and inappropriate student-teacher situations? Is it the teacher's fault? Is it the student's fault? Is it the school's fault for not providing safe environments for our children? Are children just growing up too fast?

Perhaps one of the most logical reasons is the fact that many teachers today are crossing the boundaries with their students and are becoming too close. Teachers seem to be getting too friendly during their efforts to be relatable and accepted by their younger pupils. Many teachers have crossed the lines of professionalism and have become too "buddy-buddy" with their students. This may be due to the fact that many teachers today

are very young and have grown up in the same technological and sexed-up generation as their students. This does not give them any right to commit statutory rape and manipulate children under their guidance.

When teachers engage in sexual relations with their students, they become the epitome of the word "unethical." Dr. David Woodard, a professor of history and political science at Concordia University, stated, "Teachers are supposed to be the adults and should know better. Always! These kids are getting manipulated by the adults. Kids may think they are mature in these situations, but in reality they have no idea what they are doing." Young teenagers who are still maturing are being taken advantage of by their authority figures and are left as the victims of statutory rape.

One of the most famous cases involv-



ing a conviction of statutory rape between a student and teacher was that of Mary Kay Letourneau, the 34-year-old teacher who had sexual relations with her 13-year-old student. Letourneau ended up pregnant with his child and was then sentenced to four months in prison, though she was released on parole early for good behavior. After she was released, she was sent back to serve the remainder of her sentence (seven and a half years) because she had violated her parole by having intercourse with the student once again. While in prison, she gave birth to the boy's second child. After her release, Letourneau and her student-boyfriend were married. This is the perfect example of the breakdown of the student-teacher relationship in today's society.

Many people, including certain U.S. judges who have ruled against the incarceration of teachers who have committed statutory rape against their

students, argue that kids today are mature enough to make these decisions. Today's younger generations seem to be growing up too fast and are passing through childhood in the blink of an eye. They are getting jobs earlier in life, undergoing testing for career compatibility in high school, and are being brainwashed with the idea that they should know exactly what they want to do with the rest of their life by the time they get to college. Dr. Woodard agrees with this assessment, saying, "Kids are no longer able to be kids anymore. Parents are becoming too serious and worry about their kid's future, so they start pressuring their kids earlier in life to do more and be more. Kids should go to school to study and get an education, but parents are adding extra pressure

and teachers are becoming poor role models." It has become a hard time for kids and teachers crossing the boundaries. Teachers engaging in intimate relationships with students are not assisting them on their difficult journey.

It is absolutely terrifying to think that our nation's children are prone to sexual advances and harassment from teachers and school officials. A 2004 in-depth study conducted by the U.S. Department of Education concluded that "nearly 10% of U.S. public students have been the targets of unwanted sexual attention by school employees. Approximately 4.5 million students are subject to sexual misconduct between kindergarten and 12th grade every year." These appalling statistics show that there is a definite problem in our education system that needs to be dealt with immediately.

It is imperative that teachers continue to nurture their students while not crossing the delicate boundaries of student-teacher relations. Let us all hope that they will make the right decisions and help further the education of future generations.

## Jazz Concert

By Susanna Mennicke

Temperatures fluctuated between hot and cool in the Buetow Auditorium last weekend when the Jazz Band and Vox 9 vocal ensemble performed in a joint concert on Nov. 9.

The two ensembles shared the Fall Jazz concert, alternating musical selections. Between both groups, the audience heard a wide variety of jazz, pop, rock, and other genres of music.

Vox 9 opened the concert with a close-harmony arrangement "The Star-Spangled Banner" by the group's director, Bill White. The Jazz Band then launched into "Getting Straight," a rock-influenced number with improvised solos by Spencer Miller on guitar, Tim Sailer on trumpet, and Ben Rivers on bass guitar.

The concert continued with another Bill White arrangement of "Happy Birthday." Vox 9 showed their focus on creating solid yet smooth harmonies as they sang to acting birthday girl Rachel Kuhnle.

Vox 9 is a young ensemble in only its second semester. The group performed its longest program yet in the concert, with seven pieces, including many more challenging than last year's. "We've expanded the variety of music we're singing, and we've gone completely a cappella this semester," said White.

Deciding to perform entirely a cappella repertoire allowed Vox 9 to try some new techniques, including vocal percussion. A highlight of their performance was a cover of Toto's "Africa" in which the singers vocalized all of the instrumental parts of the original song. The group showed marked growth from last year. Senior Vox 9 member Rebekah Henrickson said that the group has more low male voices this year, which lets them sing a greater variety of songs. She also said that the female singers are "meshing even better than last year."

The Jazz Band played several styles of music as well, from the bossanova classic "The Girl from Ipanema" to a New Orleans jazz number, "Tight Like This." The band's program was also a showcase for student solos.

"Improvisation is the heart and soul of jazz," said Dr. Bill Ford, director of the Jazz Band. With that idea in mind, the ensemble has focused on learning the different styles of jazz and the structure on which to improvise. Their work showed during the concert. Almost all of the students improvised 12- to 16-bar solos, an impressive feat considering that half of the group this semester was new to jazz.

The evening closed with "Watermelon Man," a 16-bar piece that included solos by several students, including vocalist Rebekah Henrickson. The collaboration of the vocal and instrumental jazz ensembles ensured that the concert had a wide spectrum of sound, and offered something for every music lover in the room to enjoy.



## What are you reading?

By Johanna Pugsley

Have you read any good books lately? Many college students often feel too busy to read for pleasure, but a few have been able to squeeze in an enjoyable book or two. Some have even found that assigned reading can be fun. Both students and faculty have shared recommendations on books they have recently enjoyed.

Ariel Gittens, a Concordia student, has been reading James Howard Kunstler's "The Long Emergency," which talks about people's dependence on oil. Gittens says, "I'm reading it in my free time because I like to read." She has also purchased Barbara Kingsolver's "Poisonwood Bible." She said that she hopes to read more books by Kingsolver in the future.

For one of her classes, Angela Pickett, a pre-med student, has read Hunt's "On Hitler's Mountain," the memoirs of a girl growing up before and during World War II. The girl lived on the mountain that Hitler and his Secret Service regiment used as their resort. Pickett has also read Dr. Vasella's "Magic Cancer Bullet," which describes Gleevec and how it came to be produced and marketed, from its initial trials through its production.

For out-of-class reading, Pickett says that she would love to read something that is not assigned. She hopes to finish the "Left Behind" series. Many times she has read Hawthorne's "The Scarlet Letter," which she says "is the best classical book written, if not the best book ever written." Her second favorite book is Steven King's "My Pretty Pony," which describes how time becomes shorter as one grows older.

Deaconess intern Luz Guerrero has been reading "Surprising Insights From the Unchurched and Proven Ways to Reach Them" by Thomas Rainer and "Pray Big" by Will Davis, Jr. "These two books are awesome," says Guerrero, "and...they are chang-

ing some of my ways of thinking."

Art professor Keith Williams said that he has recently read Malcolm Gladwell's "Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking." According to Williams, it is "a fascinating study about intuitive intelligence." The author describes how people can

rather awful stories."

Williams says that he read this book because he had formerly read Howard Zinn's "A People's History of the United States: 1492 to the Present," written in 1995. According to Williams, "The history that I learned in school about America and its players was amazingly sanitized." He said this book "reveals some very interesting and occasionally some very awful truths about the shapers of history and what they did."

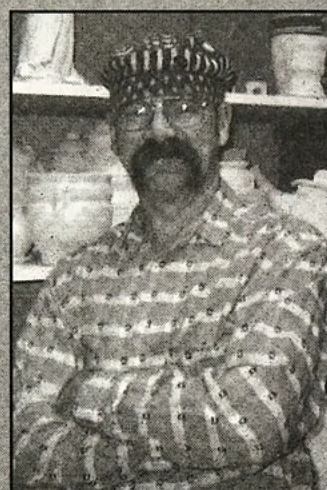
Williams did say, "I occasionally do read for fun." He enjoys "mindless science fiction stories," especially Harry Harrison's series "The Adventures of the Stainless Steel Rat," a tongue-in-cheek tale about an intergalactic crook who is forced to work for the good guys. He also likes Douglas Adams's "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy," a five-book series. Williams says it is a "silly surrealistic view of the universe, known and unknown."

English professor

Dr. Debra Beilke recently read the novel "The Reluctant Fundamentalist" by Mohsin Hamid. She says, "It is about an immigrant from Pakistan named Changez. He is very successful in the United States. He graduates from Princeton and gets a high-paying, elite job in finance in Manhattan. The novel explores Changez's change in identity from pro-American, to questioning the American dream and identity, to someone who may (or may not) be involved in anti-American terrorism. It is a suspenseful narrative which attempts to explain why someone might turn against America."

know things before they have found the answer. Williams says it is "an interesting study about how we know more things than we allow ourselves to know."

Williams has also read "A People's History of the Civil War: Struggles for the Meaning of Freedom" by David Williams and Howard Zinn. "I am very interested by war stories," Williams says. He explains that this book describes the impact on the people. They are "not the stories of the battles," he said, "they're the stories of the noncombatants, the stories of the people who aren't fighting...more human, often times



Clockwise from top: Professor Keith Williams, Dr. Debra Beilke, Ariel Gittens, Angela Pickett  
Photos provided by Johanna Pugsley



## NATS

By Rachel Kuhnle

The National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) sponsors Student Auditions, a singing competition held the first weekend of November.

Of the 21 CSP students to compete in the Minnesota Chapter, sophomores Rachel Anne Hopkins and Alex Heetland and freshmen Christine Mennicke and Hillary Minnaert advanced to the semi-final round. Rachel Anne Hopkins went on to compete with two others for the top position in her division and was rewarded second place.

The largest competition of its kind in the state, NATS attracts more than 300 students each year; the majority of Minnesota schools--high school and college level--are represented. Students are placed in divisions based on age and sex and perform three vocal pieces, each from a specific time period, for a panel of three judges.

Concordia is unique in that the voice professors are very involved in the NATS organization. CSP Voice Professor Shari Speer is the current president, Dr. Monica Murray is the past president, and Professor Barbra Prince edits the NATS newsletter.

"We don't really call it a competition as much as auditions," said Speer. "Every student is working for their own goals and trying to achieve the highest level of performance possible in their repertoire."

"[NATS is about] having the experience of singing for people who have never heard your voice, qualified voice teachers, people who can give you feedback," voice student MaryLynn Mennicke commented. "It's about performing with the complete package...a stage presence and a commitment to the music and communicating to the audience."

While the hard work and experience are truly valuable rewards, students have other incentives for doing well. Hopkins can attest to this, having received a cash reward of \$75.

Ironically, Hopkins, stressed from a loaded semester, almost did not attend.

Hopkins's voice teacher Dr. Monica Murray commented, "Singing takes focus and energy and when you have a lot going on you can become frustrated."

"It takes a lot of time...And I'm busy. But I am really glad I went," Hopkins said with a smile.

"This year is the most students we've ever had participate," Murray said. "It's really a testimony to the students, to the discipline and commitment the students have put in, and to the voice teaching and music department as a whole."

Article continued on p. 14...



## "Jane Eyre" shines at the Guthrie

By Erin Anderson

Anyone who has been to the new Guthrie Theater, located in Downtown Minneapolis, knows that I am not exaggerating when I use the words "astounding," "amazing," and "magnificent" to describe the building. Every minute detail was planned and executed to exact vision of the architect,

Atelier Jean Nouvel. From the lighting, to the décor, to the placement of win-

dows, no corner of the Guthrie was left to chance. Located on the bank of the Mis-



Above: Lance Meyer (left) and Erin Anderson (middle) venture onto the yellow bridge. Photo courtesy of Sydnee Bickett

issippi River, the Guthrie truly illustrates the wonders of architecture.

On Sunday, October 28, I, along with fellow editors Lance Meyer and Sydnee Bickett, had the opportunity to spend the day at the Guthrie Theater for their annual College Media Day. We, along with a number of students from other universities, were able to venture on a backstage tour learning all the ins and outs of the theater. Our guide was careful to note each "potential date site" we passed, recommending the bar and lounges. We also had the opportunity to listen to Dominic Papatola of "The Pioneer Press" and Graydon Royce of "The Star Tribune," both theater



Above: Stacia Rice (Jane Eyre) and Margaret Daly (Jane Senior) in the Guthrie production. Photo courtesy of T. Charles Erickson

critics, and ask them questions pertaining to their craft. The day ended with a seven o'clock performance of Charlotte Brontë's "Jane Eyre."

The works of Charlotte Brontë are known worldwide. Brontë is perhaps best known for her romantic novel "Jane Eyre." Set in England in the 1800s, the story of "Jane Eyre" follows the title character through her life of trials and tribulations.

Orphaned at a young age, Jane is

## Fighting another battle

By Kaitlin Hartnett

On May 30, 2007, Custodial and Grounds Manager John Brockopp was admitted to the ICU, where the doctors couldn't quite figure out what was wrong, but "he for sure had double pneumonia – both of his lungs were half full" according to the journal kept up by his wife, Janel, on the Caring Bridge website. They put him on a ventilator to help him breathe immediately.

According to Janel, he had been breathing strangely, but she had just assumed it was from dreaming. Then she couldn't get him to wake up, and when he did, he'd say things that were out of place. Then she decided to call 911.

"I finally realized that he was in serious trouble," she recalled in the journal.

When she got him to the hospital, things did not improve much, but she said, "The one thing I do hear from them is that he has a few things going for him, he is strong, and healthy and that may just be the difference that gets him through this."

John Brockopp, who was diagnosed with leukemia in June of 2003, had been battling various illnesses and colds ever since his bone marrow transplant, according to the journal. Since he is basically working with a new immune system, his body is not able to fight off

infections like those with "normal" immune systems.

Chris Schwanke, a maintenance worker and '06 graduate said that the summer was not looking good for Brockopp.

"There were times when we were hearing that he might not make it," he said.

Brockopp's wife's journal entry from June 2 confirms this.

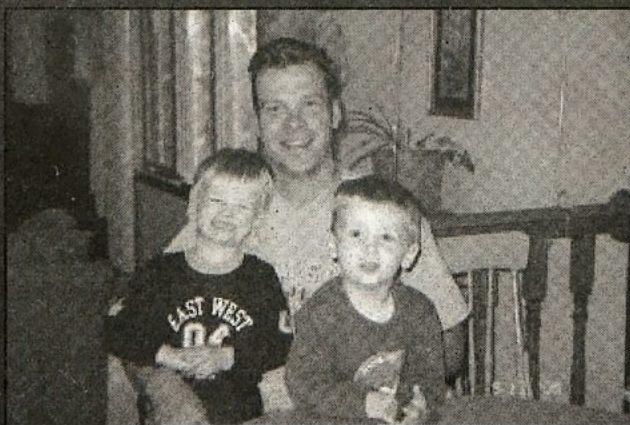
"It was the hardest thing telling them [his sons] that John may have to go and live in Heaven with Jesus. But at the same time I can't give them false hope."

John said that it was a difficult thing for his wife to deal with the boys by herself, but updating the website was a way to handle all of the pent-up emotion. At the time, she was taking care of her three sons, Jace (nine at the time), and Rece

and Riley (5 at the time).

On June 3, she said in the online journal she was trying to face reality.

"I know that there is a very strong possibility he will not make it. I still feel like I am in another world, for this surely can't be



Brockopp with twin sons Jace and Rece. Photo courtesy of Janel Brockopp

happen to us," he said. "Then I realize it is and I have to deal with it."

One recurring theme in her writings, though, was how strong her faith was, and how much she depended on God to not only help heal John, but to give her strength as well. Nearly every time something good happened, no matter how small, she would write either "God is good," or "God is great."

John also said that his faith played a

major role in helping him recover.

"That was the way I was able to get through stuff," he said.

Brockopp, it was later found out, had contracted Hantavirus, a virus that spreads through airborne contact through mice urine or droppings. According to Janel's journal, the disease is often deadly. For someone like John to contract it, the effects were devastating. On top of that, he had a stroke that left some brain damage. To this day, John said he still has trouble with his left hand.

"It's tough to move it," he said. "I can move my fingers and touch my thumb, but that's about it."

In his interview, Brockopp said that he was doing much better and slowly coming back. He said he plans to be back at work in January or February, as his boys are at school all day, and he does not have a lot to do at home.

"I'm ready to go back to work," he said. "Being able to talk with people is one thing I'd like to do."

Look for more updates/history on John Brockopp and his family in upcoming issues of the Sword, and for additional information and to read Janel Brockopp's journal, go to <http://www.caringbridge.org/mn/johnb/>.



## Guthrie continued...

raised by her cruel aunt for a few years before being shipped off to a corrupt boarding school. When the time comes to search for a job, Jane (Stacia Rice) advertises in the paper for a position as a governess. Her advertisement is quickly answered and Jane heads to Thornfield



Above: Stacia Rice (Jane Eyre) and Sean Haberle (Edward Rochester) in the Guthrie production. Photo courtesy of T. Charles Erickson

Manor to take her new post. While at Thornfield, Jane falls in love with the master of the house, Mr. Rochester (Sean Haberle). The only thing standing the way of Jane's happiness is Mr. Rochester's deranged wife.

In the stage version of "Jane Eyre," the narrator is a mature Jane (Margret Daly) reflecting on her life. This makes for a wonderful reference point and an interesting timeline. Actress Stacia Rice plays Jane Eyre in her twenties and is certainly the star of the show. Believable, charming, and talented, Rice breathes life into the lead character and, in this writer's opinion, stole the show.

What with the breathtaking scenery, the energy of guide and the magic of the stage performance, my senses were left spinning. I will undoubtedly become a frequent visitor of the theater. The Guthrie is certainly a venue well suited for all. Do not miss out on everything that this wonderful theater has to offer. Make it a night out on the town. Take a personal tour of the theater; catch a show in one of the Guthrie's plush theaters, or simply pull up a sofa seat for a glass of wine in one of the relaxed lounges. The Guthrie is one Minnesota site which should not be overlooked.

For showtimes and more information, visit <http://www.guthrietheater.org>

## Surrealism: a brief encounter

By Tim Sailer

Drawings courtesy of attendees at the Surrealism event

*"the famous turkey spends a day of pleasure turning round in an enchanted circle with the pluck of a lion"*

--Benjamin Peret "The Staircase with a Hundred Steps"

Earlier this month, students and professors walked into classroom 310 in Meyer Hall and transcended into the realm of surrealism.

Professor Brad Liening of the Department of English and Modern Languages provided a short introduction to the philosophy of surrealist art and poetry.

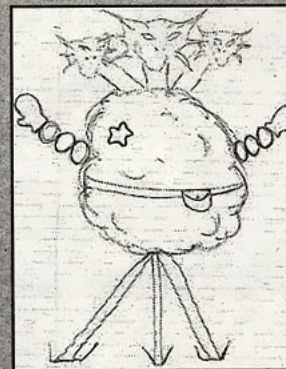
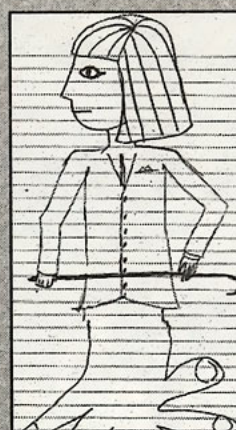
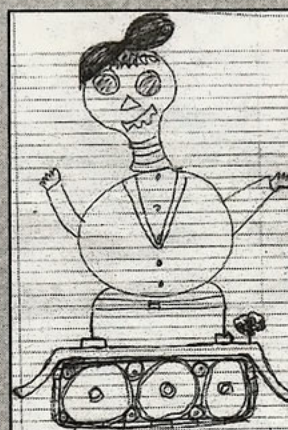
André Breton founded the Surrealist movement and wrote its first manifesto, "Le Manifeste du Surréalisme." He defines surrealism as, "Pure psychic automatism by which it is intended to express, either verbally or in writing, the true function of thought. Thought dictated in the absence of all control exerted by reason, and outside all aesthetic or moral preoccupations."

Liening said the philosophy derives from the Dada movement shortly after World War I. The Dadaists were very much anti-war in a combative manner. They were "the dirty punk rock kids...gleefully nihilistic," said Liening.

The surrealists that followed sought to develop and instill a philosophy that married art and life. They hope to stir a social revolution through art. Such a revolution would lead to the

liberation of the subconscious.

Surrealists often use juxtaposition,



melding two unlike objects or idea into something more profound and unthinkable. For example, Liening said it was much like the "the chance encounter of a sewing machine, an umbrella, on an operating table," said Liening.

But surrealism is anything but nonsense.

Liening provided another example. A tall skyscraper and an airplane aren't meant to be together. Prior to Sep-

tember 11, 2001 all would agree.

Today, the two objects have been juxtaposed and have constructed an alternate reality, transcending reason.

After the 20-minute presentation, Liening invited the attendees to unleash their imaginations and subconscious through two activities.

Everyone folded a piece of paper into thirds and drew one portion of a being: the head, torso or legs. Without seeing the whole of the images, the nubile surrealists crafted bizarre creatures, unleashing the collective unconscious within the room.

Similarly, the attendees crafted poems, sharing the same first line: "The green balloon parts the red waves."

The poets continued writing the next line of the poem.

As the papers were passed around, the lines would be folded so the writers could only see the latest line being written. The results were

strange, yet managed to have a bizarre cohesiveness.

This activity was based of a French parlor game in 1925. The surrealists decided on the order of the parts of speech for a sentence, passing the paper along, while covering up the preceding words. The result was: "The exquisite corpse will drink the young wine."

And then this structured article ends as the ink melts into the readers' brains...

### Make your own "exquisite corpse" poem

1. Snag a piece of paper and writing utensils
2. Write the first line of your surrealist poem
3. The next person will write the next line of the poem and fold over the first line
4. The third person will write the next line, fold over the previous line, and pass it along
5. Repeat as needed, constructing
6. Continue until the subconscious muse hits you over the head and tells you to stop writing the poem
7. Read the poem aloud and discover the macabre, reason-transcending brilliance
8. Share/Disturb your friends as you begin your own surrealist revolution

Continued  
from p. 13...

Those who participated in NATS include Katie Benke, Joanna Gimbel, Hillary Minnaert, Tim Sailer, Alex Heetland, Caitlin Ehlenz, Josh Pehl, Jameson Baxter, Christine Mennicke, Kara Bennett, Josh Huber, Rachel Hopkins, Linnea Brashears, Kait Craig, Kristina Guiffre, Frankie Carlson, Jared Martin, Susanna Mennicke, MaryLynn Mennicke, Jessica Ellis, and Laura Mews.



## Hickeys and string quartets

By Rachel Kuhnle

Hickeys and string quartets are what Amanda "A.J." Cawthorn promised Concordia St. Paul students on her senior recital flyers last month. "I've had this hickey for 8 years," Cawthorn's posters teased, "Come find out why."

Whether people came for the...hickey...

or Cawthorn's violin musings, the October 20th afternoon recital was a delightful feature of the strings world of Concordia. Cawthorn began solo with Joseph Haydn's "Concerto in G" and was then joined by Linnea Brashears on violin for two movements of Ignaz Pleyel's "Duet No. 5."

Sandwiched in the middle of the performance were three Cawthorn originals. "Sonata Tragica," a miniature sonata in three movements notably containing only five notes in various forms, was followed by the quartet piece *Aria* and the four movement "Suite for Strings." The quartet was composed of Linnea Brashears on violin, Elizabeth Ehlenz on viola, and Tammy Pearson on the cello.

The last two pieces of the recital were "Theme from Schindler's List," by John Williams ("John Williams is my idol. If he were younger and single...and if I were single..."), and *Czardas* by Vittorio Monti. The latter is a traditional Hungarian folk-dance often performed by gypsy orchestras. The tune was up tempo and fun, yet eerie and haunting.

Cawthorn has been playing the violin for eighteen years but composing music is still a relatively new endeavor. While she did have a minor fourth grade piano composition called "Rainbow Dreams" and some rock songs in high school, Cawthorn first began composing classi-

cal music her junior year at CSP. "I've written some organ solos and piano solos, violin sonatas, concertos, quartets..." As far as the future goes, "I'll continue to write quartets and concertos...I can see myself writing whole symphonies of music one day, though."

Graduating in December as a music major

with a composition emphasis, Cawthorn first came to Concordia to be a Director of Christian Education. "That's what I was going to be, then a missionary, then I realized you don't need to go to college to be a missionary, I can get a degree in music and become a musicianary." But for now, Cawthorn's main concern is family.

Having been married this last summer to Concordia Alum Aaron Cawthorn, Cawthorn, after graduation, intends to move to Iowa where her husband and she have recently bought a house. She'll continue to pursue orchestras, symphonies and music academies, but in response to the idea of immediately being a professional musician, Cawthorn said, "I don't know. It'd be really cool but I don't want to be one of those people who go crazy and don't have time for family."

About a career in musical performance, Cawthorn also commented, "A lot of people say [playing music] is a stress reliever and blah, blah, but it's not for me. It stresses me out, and I hate it, but

at the same time I adore it...I have to work hard at it, it doesn't come easy for me like it might to other people...but it is rewarding."

After three and a half years of study at CSP, Cawthorn will soon be off to face the real world with one loyal friend who's been there all along; her violin. "I've put so many years into [the violin] already and it's kind of like since I started when I was so little I don't remember ever not playing. It's like, and I don't want to sound cheesy, but it's a part of me, really."

Oh, and the hickey on her neck is just a callus from the positioning of her violin, by the way.



Photos courtesy of AJ Cawthorn

## Local Band Alert!

### A Verse Unsung

By Amy Wolter

The local music scene in the Twin Cities region holds some of the best talent in the country. There are so many bands ready to show what sets them apart from everyone else. One of the best things that a music enthusiast can do is go out and discover new talent. Having quite a network of friends who are in local bands in the area, I tend to go out to a lot of shows and show support for the local scene. Most of these shows are around a \$5 cover charge, but it is usually well worth it, because audience members are able to see two or three opening bands as well as the headlining band.

I had been hearing great things about the group A Verse Unsung over the past few months and really wanted to check them out live. Sunday November 4 was the CD release party for this rock/progressive group from Minneapolis, and I made it a point to go and see in person what

they could do. Band members Dan, Jake, Kenny and Aaron are a relatively young group but are not letting that get in the way of their current success. Already releasing an EP, recording an album was nothing new to these guys. They've played shows all across the U.S. including the Red Rocks Music Festival in Colorado next to bands like the Flaming Lips.

Starting on November 10, the guys began another U.S. tour hitting the Midwest, West Coast, and Southwest states. Sunday night's show was a nearly full house at the Triple Rock Social Club in Dinkytown, one of the most popular music venues in the city ([www.triplerocksocialclub.com](http://www.triplerocksocialclub.com)). The guys bid a farewell to

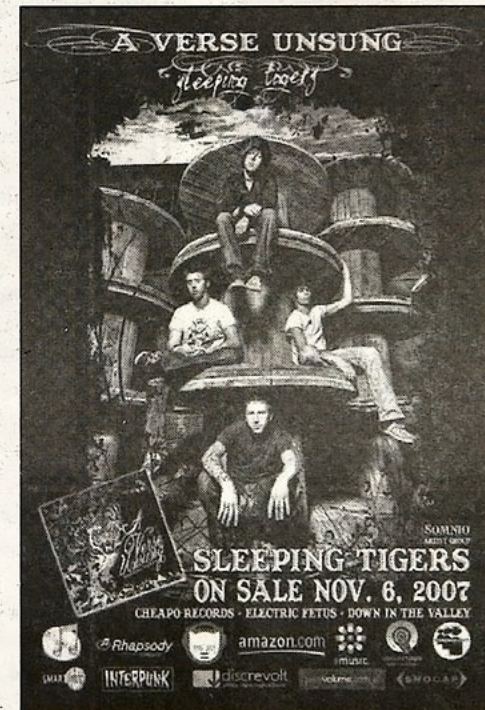
their fans in the Minneapolis area, as they won't be back here to play until January. The CD release set featured songs from both their previous "The Autumn" EP and the new full length album entitled "Sleeping Tigers". Some of the more popular tracks such as "Cali," "I lived, I've loved, I lost," from "The Autumn" got fans pumped up to hear the new tracks such as "Six Strings" and "Coming Home" which were exactly what the fans were wanting to hear.

Since this was the first time that I'd ever seen the group live, I was both excited and skeptical of what they could do on stage. Overall I was very

impressed with the way these four musicians performed. The sound was great, and the members all seemed to blend together very well. Jake, the front man, pulls everything together with outstanding vocals along with his unique sound. The guys had great stage

presence and kept the crowd motivated and excited throughout the entire set. Maybe it was just because they were playing for their hometown fans, or perhaps it's how they play at every show, but they looked like they were just up there having the time of their lives, which is what being in a band is all about.

I wish A Verse Unsung the best of luck as they begin their tour, and I'd encourage anyone to see them live when they return in January. In the mean time, if you'd like more information please visit [www.myspace.com/averseunsung](http://www.myspace.com/averseunsung) or [www.purevolume.com/averseunsung](http://www.purevolume.com/averseunsung)





## Concordia: Helping people do what they love

### Alumni Profile: Eric Cannedy

By Evan Palenschat

"I loved the world of graphic design... I never thought it would end up being the way I pay the bills, too," Eric Cannedy, former Concordia University student said.

Eric works for Signature Media Group (SMG), a print procurement company that specializes in an automated eCommerce system. Starting out as a graphic designer about a month after his graduation in 2005, Eric has gradually moved up the business ladder and is now the Director of eCommerce and Design.

As an undergraduate student, Eric was a Communication Studies major. He said, "The Communication Studies major is so versatile; it was perfect for me because I am interested in a lot of different things." He isn't kidding. While he was at CU, he was involved in multiple extra curricular activities. He served on the Student Senate, Concordia Activities Board, and was the found-

er of the Concordia Democrats (now the Concordia Progressives). Also, Eric sang in the Christus Chorus, played in the Jazz Band, and was in 11 theater productions. Somehow, during all of this activity, Eric found time to be the Editor-in-chief of "The Sword."

While working for "The Sword" and the Concordia Activities Board, Eric was introduced to the world of graphic design. He said that he loved it so much that he started to do it in his spare time. Eventually, this led to the position at SMG, based in Bloomington.



Photo courtesy of Eric Cannedy

When asked what his typical day includes, Eric said, "Usually about half my day is spent on design work, and the other half is managing our online ordering application, responding to clients' needs, working with vendors, and

anything else that might come up." From this description, it sounds as though Eric's communication and graphic design work here at Concordia were

a perfect fit for his current position.

Even with his new job, Cannedy still has time to pursue some of his passions. He has had roles in four local theatres since graduation. These include Lakeshore Players Theatre, Theatre in the Round, Skylark Opera, and Mounds View Community Theatre. Also, he has been singing in a madrigal ensemble at the College of St. Catherine. Cannedy also has an interest in Al Franken's senate campaign. He has been doing volunteer work and hopes to get more involved as the election nears.

Cannedy credits much of his success to the experience and education that he received here at Concordia. He still gives part of his time back to the institution by working with Alumni Relations. It seems that although he has moved on, Cannedy is still very much a part of the campus life.

## Dates with Eich, v.I

By Matt Eicheldinger

Welcome to the newest addition to The Sword, "Dates with Dinger"! My name is Matt Eicheldinger, and I am in junior working on my Elementary Education license. Over the course of three years, it has become clear to me that our university is located in one of the best parts of the Twins Cities area. We are in an area where many cultures are represented, where new traditions and festivals are abundant. One of the greatest aspects of living in such a diverse area, however, is the food. Our area boasts some of the best pubs and eateries in the Twins Cities area, and my job is to present several of these hidden and unique restaurants to your attention.

Next time you are up early enough to get some breakfast, or feeling like a hearty burger, I highly suggest you take a walk down to St. Clair Broiler located on the corner of St. Clair and Snelling Ave. across from the Macalester University Stadium. Given away by its large, neon sign, the St. Clair Broiler has survived over 50 years in St. Paul, making it one of the oldest restaurants in Minnesota. Originally a candy shop in 1946, the store became quickly recognized for its open-flamed broiled burgers in 1956. "The Broiler" as it sometimes called, is still family owned,

and recently underwent a full scale remodel of the interior in the summer of 2007. Even with its new plates and seating, there is still an old feel to the place, as many pictures of the old store cover the walls.

Breakfast is--without a doubt--the best feature that the restaurant holds, so it is no surprise that they serve it all day. Highlighting the breakfast menu are the omelets. Created with four eggs, these beasts will surely fill you up and for some, create a second meal for later in the week. With original omelets like the "Iron Lake" and "Juan's Delight," you are sure to find some satisfaction within the first few bites. "Golden French Toast" is also quite popular among regular attendees. Made with a hint of vanilla and grilled with cinnamon sugar, Golden French Toast might become the meal you always order at The Broiler. If you are willing to pay a little extra for a drink, I suggest you accompany your meal with a glass of freshly squeezed orange juice. It will make your day.

Lunch is home to the renowned Jimmy's Deluxe, a broiled Black Angus beef burger served with bacon, American cheese, tomato, mayo and sautéed onions. Not too big, and not too small, the Jimmy's Deluxe will ensure its



Photo courtesy of Flickr

owner delight. Sounds ordinary? Think of it this way: This burger has been the sole foundation and attraction of the St. Clair Broiler, and has continued to bring in customers for more than 50 years. If that is not persuasive, I don't know what is. The dinner menu is not very extravagant in size, but the meals are excellent. "Ribs by Rudolph" are becoming an area legend meal, and the "Meatloaf Dinner" is still an old favorite. For dessert, make sure to save room for a float or a shake, and if you're feeling daring, try tackling the "Giant Sundae". In any case, you will be sure to leave your booth with approval.

What type of restaurant is this? One thing is for sure; you won't find people clinking glasses of beer and signing victory songs for the Gophers. This place is designed for small crowds looking for a place to talk and get away from mainstream restaurants. Dates, after church

brunches, and small outings are perfect for the St. Clair Broiler. With its big meals, small prices, and great service, the St. Clair Broiler is sure to be one of your favorite local restaurants!

### Eich's Chart of Satisfaction

- 1 = Awesome + Amazing
- 2 = Great
- 3 = Typical
- 4 = Questionable
- 5 = Awful
- 6 = Run and Hide

St. Clair Broiler  
Food Quality: 1 / 2  
Service: 2  
Location: 1  
Seating: 3  
Bathroom: 3



## How long could you go without technology?

The parameters the editorial staff agreed upon:

- The techno-moratorium would last 24-hours with the knowledge of the editorial staff of "The Sword;"
- I could not use any computer/laptop, Internet access (including swiping my credit or debit cards), personal data assistants, iPods or similar devices, digital cameras or cell phones;
- I would not alter my daily schedule to accommodate for the day;
- I would write about the tragedies and triumphs of the day.

### A professor's perspective

By Debra Beilke

*With apologies to Edgar Allan Poe; may he rest in peace.*

November 8, 2007

12:00 p.m. Tim Sailer has challenged me to a "technology fast." The challenge is to give up recent technology for 24 hours.

This will be a piece of cake! I understand why young people might find this challenge difficult. They grew up with cell phones and other technologies such as Blueberries, PeaPods, and MyFace. They have never had to write with a quill, and it has made them weak.

But people from my generation are made of sterner stuff.

We not only walked to school ten miles barefoot in mountainous snow drifts, but we also used typewriters and slide rules. (Well, I used my fingers and toes to help me with math, but I heard that some people used slide rules.)

I am NOT addicted to technology. I am strong and independent. I will triumph. I have closed my laptop.

12:10 p.m. I am looking at my closed laptop. I wonder if anybody has e-mailed me.

12:15 p.m. I just had a thought about Edgar Allan Poe I need to share with my American Literature students. I'm not going to see them until Monday, though. I think they really need to know more about his love of dead women. I wish I could e-mail them this information. They will suffer because of this challenge.

12:17 p.m. This might turn out to be harder than I thought. Maybe I should call a friend to talk about it. Oh. I can't—they all have cell phones.

12:20 p.m. My laptop is sitting there, still closed. Is it staring at me? It is! It is smirking at me, taunting me, daring me to open it.



Photo courtesy of www.almightyguru.com

12:27 p.m. What if somebody has e-mailed me something really urgent? Although I am strong and am not personally addicted to technology, it is probably selfish of me to go without it. What about other people who need to reach me? How can they survive 24 hours without me?

12:30 p.m. I can feel the virtual vibrations of the laptop. In fact, I can hear them: thump, thump, thump. I need to calm the laptop. It is delirious without me. Surely it can't hurt if I just touched it, a soft, calming caress.

12:37 p.m. The laptop is still trying to lure me into its trap. Maybe it would help if I wrote some poetry to express my struggles. Here's a start:

And the laptop, never blinking/ Still is sitting, still is sitting/ On the dusty, sticky desk just beside my office door/ And its keys have all the gleaming of an angel that is dreaming/ And the sunlight o'er it streaming throws its shadow on the floor/

12:41 p.m. Although Tim said I could not use technology for 24 hours, he never said I had to leave everything turned off. What harm can it do

me to open up the laptop and turn it on? I'm just going to look; I'm not going to use it.

12:43 p.m. I opened the laptop. I confess—I went even further and caressed the keys. The sensation was delicious, delightful, and oh, so satisfying.

12:47 p.m. I give up! I have written an e-mail and it feels so good! I am happy once again! What was I thinking? With God as my witness, I'll never go technology-hungry again!!

And my soul escapes the shadow that lies floating on the floor/ The laptop lid shall be opened, shall be lifted, SHALL BE LIFTED----EVERMORE!!!

### A student's perspective

By Tim Sailer

I managed to survive a 24-hour period without the beloved technology I use daily. It was surprisingly relaxing—sometimes.

#### The hourly breakdown

9:00 p.m. The halt on technology began. I was to meet some friends at Applebee's and I immediately felt stranded. I couldn't call anyone to make certain I was at the right Applebee's or I had arrived on time. My friends were unaware of the challenge, so they weren't playing a trick on me. Most arrived a few minutes after I did.

11:30 p.m. I paid for my food and drinks with cash—a rarity!

12:00 a.m. I read for a while and went to bed. This challenge isn't too bad.

8:15 a.m. I woke up and got ready for the day. I left my cell phone on

the coffee table in my apartment. Usually it rests in my left pocket and serves as my watch. Throughout the day, I never knew the time. I think I asked six different

people what time it was when no clock was around.

9:30 a.m. I interviewed Billy Schultz, Student Senate president. Typically, I type interview notes or record interviews on my laptop. Today, I resigned to scribbling notes in a notebook. Many journalists continue to use this method. So far, I think I've managed

fairly well.

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. I had various meetings and some work in the theatre scene shop. There hasn't been a need to use any of the "forbidden" items yet. My friend Josiah said my challenge was too easy and that a whole week would have been more difficult. I can't even imagine what that would be like.

1:00 p.m. It was time for Script Analysis. Of the 18 students in the class, 17 had their laptops opened. I could do nothing but jot notes on paper and make scribbles. Everyone else could type their notes, poke people on Facebook, chat and work on virtual puzzles and other

games.

3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. I had choir and rehearsal for "Into the Woods." All of the work is physical; there's really no need for iPods. Some actors work on their laptops when they're not on stage.

I read some of the "Pioneer Press." I'm starting to feel like this challenge has been inadequate. This day hasn't been a fair representation of how much I rely on technology.

6:00 p.m.

Only three hours are left, and the dread is starting

to hit me. What if someone needs to get a hold of me? How many e-mails are rotting in my inbox? Since there was nothing I could do, I read newspapers in the library and chomped on a sandwich I made earlier this morning.

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. I attended a "Sword" meeting and Surrealist poetry and art workshop for the Writing

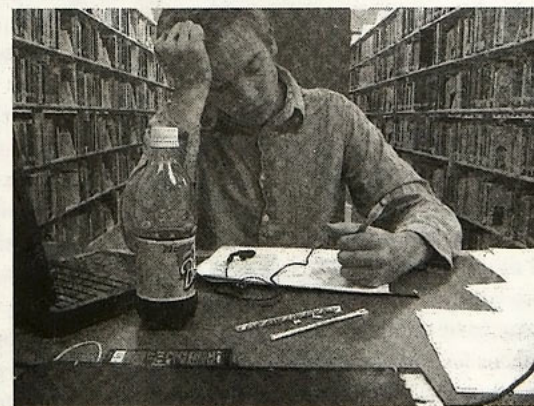


Photo courtesy of Tim Sailer



## Technology continued...

Club. A PowerPoint presentation was used, and I officially decided it wasn't a breach in the banishment rules. While it was my choice to attend the workshop, I had no choice but to participate and witness the presented technology. If you think I cheated in the final hour, write to "The Sword." I'd love to hear what you think.

10:15 p.m. I eagerly turned on my laptop, frantically clicking to my Google Apps inbox. I sifted through 28 e-mails, which is probably my daily average. It was overwhelming to see them all at once, however. A good portion of them were important scheduling/business-type e-mails that I would've liked to respond to earlier in the day. Other e-mails were not as pressing, like Facebook notices.

So what? I must admit I feel a little guilty in choosing the particular day for this dare. As I glanced over my Google Apps calendar, I selected the day that would utilize the least amount of computer use: Wednesday, Nov. 7. In my mind, I needed precious e-mail and word processing on the previous days. I felt like I was failing at the challenge before it even started.

What would prompt a "Sword" staffer, during one of the busiest times of the semester, to relinquish such technological conveniences? I'm still asking that question. I was browsing some student media online, and this was a featured challenge. It intrigued me. It scared me.

So many people, especially within the Concordia community, are dependent on technology, and I wanted to explore its ostensible necessity in my life.

That day was relieving on some levels. I was able to concentrate on one thing for an extended amount of time. I couldn't multi-task. When the time was up, the stress accumulated and I knew I couldn't hide from communicating with others. So much of my contacts, work and coursework are achieved through this technology. It is an essential element to our culture.

How many hours could you handle without it?

## Two different teams, same high expectations

By Stephen Batcher

The fall is quickly giving way to winter, which means the winter season for CU Golden Bear athletics is starting up. Golf, cross country, soccer, and football have already finished up their seasons, and volleyball will join them in the next couple weeks as they finish up post-season play. This means that soon the Gangelhoff will switch from the sound of volleyballs to the sound of basketballs as our teams take the floor.

Last year, both the men's and women's basketball teams had fantastic seasons, and both will look to continue their winning ways again this year. The two teams are very different from each other, however.

The men will rely on several newcomers this season, whereas the women's side will enjoy the luxury of having all five returning starters. The women's team did not lose a single member from their 2006-2007 team that won the conference and reached the second round of the NCAA tournament. The men's team, on the other hand, lost seven seniors to graduation from a team that tallied 21 wins and finished fourth in the conference a year ago.

The men's team will look to several players to step up this year, including Craig Heiman, Chuol Chany, Mike Cunningham, and Jason Birr, who all averaged at least ten minutes a game last year. Junior transfer Matt Cadwell from South Dakota State will also fill in nicely and help the Bears replace some of the upperclassmen they lost last year.

The team will look to steadily improve as the season goes along, and according to Sophomore Craig Heiman, they have their goals set on the conference title. Heiman also added that Winona State will again be the obvious favorite and toughest team in

the conference this year. Very reminiscent of how the volleyball team looked back in August, the Bears will have to mature fast in order to compete with the top teams in the conference.

Heiman added that the team has a much more driven attitude this year. "We feel like we've built a respectful program al-

region by March, and by then they may possibly even be one of the top teams in the nation. A trip to the NCAA Elite 8 is definitely in their grasp this year.

The sky is the limit for the Bears as they have the talent to be very impressive on the hardwood this year. Recently, senior Amanda Behnke was named to Power 16 team which is an All-American-like pre-season honor. She is also this year's NSIC preseason player of the year.

The Bears, solid in the frontcourt with Behnke, will be just as experienced in the backcourt with assist leader Katie LaViolette returning as the Bears' floor general this year.

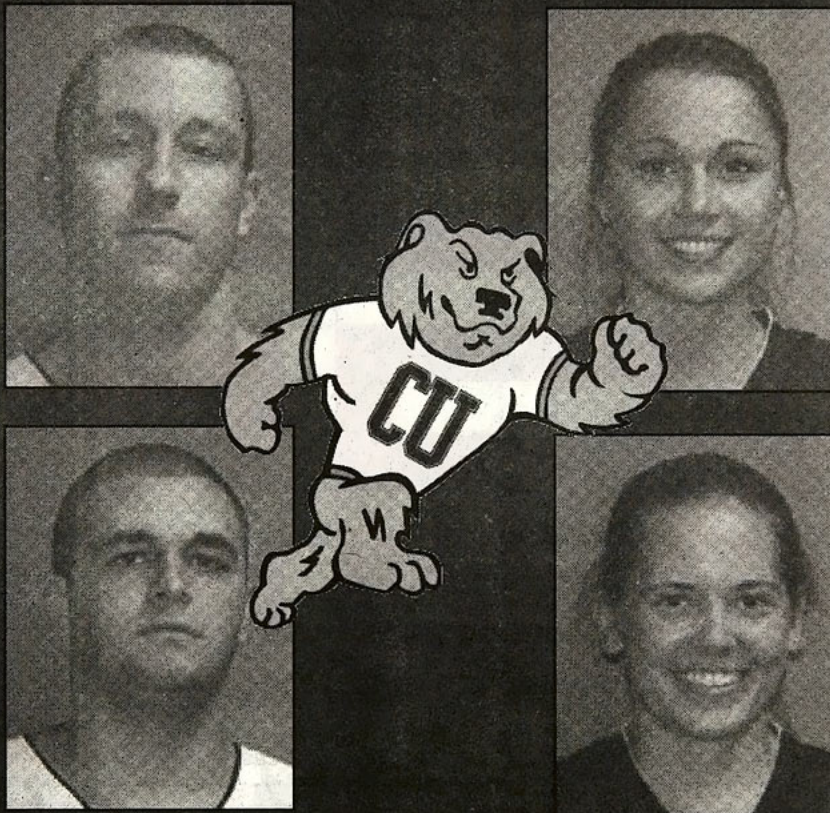
As for my personal predictions, I think that the men's team will surprise many people this year. I have a feeling that the team will go through some growing pains early on, but they will rebound fast and by the time conference play begins, they will be a force.

Because their bench isn't too deep and they have added several new faces this year, the Bears will need to stay injury-free to

be successful. Another big concern for the Bears is height. The Bears are not very big in their front court, which means they will have to rely on boxing out well and scoring points on the fast break. I predict a fourth place conference finish for the Bears and a final regular season record of 19-10.

As for the women's team, my only concern is that the Bears stay focused and not overlook anyone this year. If they can do that, they will have a very successful season. However, they must continue to work hard and play with the same intensity.

The successful teams here on campus seem to at times play down to the level of their opponents which is something the Bears can not afford. I look for the Bears to again win the conference and make another trip to the NCAA tournament. I predict an appearance in the Elite 8 and a final regular season record of 22-6.



Clockwise from top left: Matt Cadwell, Craig Heiman, Amanda Behnke, Katie LaViolette  
Photos courtesy of CSP Athletics

ready, and now we're looking to take the next step and contend for the conference title." It will be interesting to see how this attitude is played out on the court once the season gets in full swing. It will be a fun and entertaining year to watch as the Bears mature and prove to the NSIC that they are a program on the rise and not to be overlooked.

The women's program, on the other hand, has been on the rise for the last five years, and it looks like they've finally reached the top as this year's team looks poised to go down as the best in history. The Bears not only return all five starters from a year ago, but they have also added a couple junior college transfers to the mix.

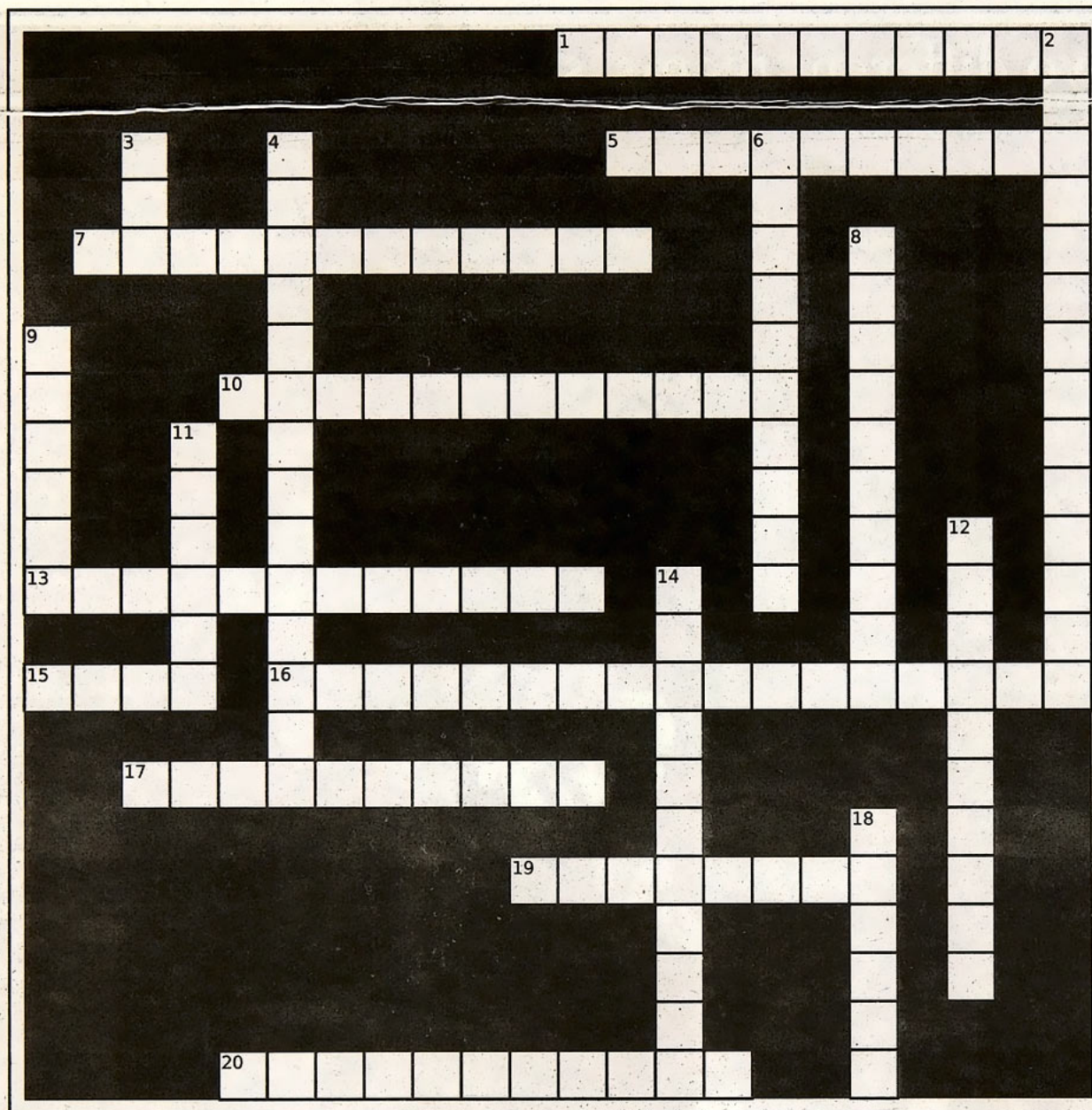
With a slightly different look from a year ago, the Bears will look to improve on last year's impressive finish and repeat as conference champions. The Bears should be one of the best teams in the



# 2008 Presidential election crossword

Created By Lance Meyer

answers will be published in the next issue!



## Down

- 2 Comedian and possible candidate in the 2008 election
- 3 Number of terms someone can serve as president
- 4 United States Senator from New York and Democratic candidate
- 6 Possible third party candidate in 2008 that has had a vital impact in past presidential elections
- 18 Site of the 2008 Republican National Convention



## Across

- 1 Democratic Candidate for 2008 and John Kerry's running mate in 2004
- 5 Minimum age that someone can be president
- 7 Oldest United States president when he took office
- 10 Republican Candidate that at one time played a role on the television series Law & Order
- 13 Republican candidate and former mayor of New York City
- 15 Number of years a Presidential term lasts
- 16 Youngest United States president when he took office
- 17 Republican candidate and advocate for staying in Iraq
- 19 How Minnesota has voted in past 8 Presidential elections
- 20 November 4, 2008

## Answers from the last issue's crossword:

